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PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

'NHAN DAN' EDITORIAL URGES REASSIGNMENT, PROPER USE OF CADRES

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 20 Feb 81 p 1

[Editorial: "Reorder the Cadres' Ranks"]

[Text] One of the great successes of our party is its ability to form and train a large, stable and strong contingent of cadres devoted to its glorious cause and trusted by the people. It is precisely this contingent of cadres with revolutionary zeal which has organized the implementation of the party line and helped win great victories.

Having matured during the national democratic people's revolution, most of our cadres have a valiant combat spirit, can endure hardships, are ready to make sacrifices and have considerable experience in political and military leadership. After shifting to the new stage, many cadres have rapidly engaged in economic activities and clearly displayed dynamism and creativeness. A contingent of scientific and technical cadres has been formed for many years and is exercising its effectiveness.

However, a shortcoming in our cadre policy is the failure to quickly and completely perceive requirements of the new stage, to draw up enough plans to train and improve cadres, especially those in charge of leadership and economic management, and to prepare and arrange cadres in conformity with requirements of economic construction which is the central task in the new stage. Because of an insufficient knowledge of management and due to the inability to firmly grasp economic laws and business methods, production and business activities have not brought about great effects. The arrangement of the cadres' ranks has been characterized by patchiness and passiveness. The evaluation of cadres is still based on the old criterion concept instead of the effectiveness and quality of task performance which must be considered to be a concentrated illustration of qualifications and abilities. In examining qualifications, the usual tendency has been to consider only personal character and attitude and to neglect the fact that qualifications are manifested primarily through a firm viewpoint coupled with loyalty to the party, through a thorough and correct execution of the party line and policy and through a respect for the masses' right to collective ownership. In examining abilities, the usual tendency has been to take past achievements into account without basing the evaluation mainly on the actual standards and ability to fulfill the present tasks. There have been instances when cadres appointed to the wrong places are not reassigned, when unqualified and depraved cadres are not quickly

replaced and when capable and qualified ones are not promptly noticed and promoted. Due to these shortcomings in the cadre policy and to the deeply administrative nature of the mechanisms concerned, state and social management has been sluggish and lengthy in many respects.

Our party and state have set forth correct policies aimed at bringing about new favorable changes in the economic situation and people's life. Since they are fully consistent with the masses' aspirations, the party directives have elicited a warm response and are being turned into a seething productive labor movement. New factors are developing rapidly. It is, therefore, urgently necessary to shift the organizational task to meet the demand for strengthened economic leadership and management, to ensure successful fulfillment of the third 5-year state plan and to prepare for other long-term tasks. The key problem is to renovate the quality of the cadres' contingent and to reorder their ranks according to new task requirements.

Each level and sector must work out a plan concerning cadres in order to rapidly select reserve cadres destined for key functions and, first and foremost, to determine the number of cadres to be replaced immediately or within the framework of the 5-year plan. A similar plan must be drawn up for the next 10 years. On the basis of such plans, it is necessary to step up the training and advanced training of cadres. An important task is to heighten training quality, to rearrange the system of schools, to bring innovations into curricula and to build a contingent of teachers with theoretical knowledge and practical experience.

Simultaneously with training and advanced training according to plan, it is necessary to reorder the cadres' ranks, to assign them to the right places with the aim of developing their abilities, to boldly promote young qualified and knowledgeable cadres inured to practical tasks and to wisely employ cadres of different ages. Long-standing cadres and party organizations are responsible for satisfactorily carrying out the new tasks in the interest of the revolution.

Le Duan wrote: "To satisfactorily carry out the task toward cadres is to place them under the most suitable organization conditions that enable them to develop their talents and creativeness to the maximum in conformity with the demands of the revolutionary mission. To do so is also to bring the organization's strength into play because by expressing itself through the positive and creative acts of each individual, this strength will be materialized and have an organized collective effect." That is an important guideline to direct our cadre policy.

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AGRICULTURE

REPORT ON AGRICULTURAL SITUATION AS OF 15 FEBRUARY

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 22 Feb 81 pp 1, 4

[Text] According to the Statistics General Department, as of 15 February, the entire country has transplanted the winter-spring rice on 1.237 million hectares representing 70.2 percent of the plan norm. The northern provinces have fulfilled 66.3 percent of the plan norm. Since the Tet holidays, the weather conditions have been favorable to the sowing and transplanting of the spring rice.

Over the past 10 days, the various localities have carried out sowing and transplanting on 155,000 hectares more. Haiphong has fulfilled 93.5 percent of the plan norm, Binh Tri Thien 92.6, Nghe Tinh 85.6 percent, Ha Nam Ninh 76.3 percent, Vinh Phu 72 percent and Thanh Hoa 64 percent. Hai Hung and Ha Son Binh Provinces and Hanoi have carried out transplanting and direct sowing on 45 to 48 percent of the planned area.

The mountainous provinces have fulfilled more than 50 percent of the plan norm for spring rice transplanting. The transplanted riceplants have taken root rapidly. The various localities have tried to carry out transplanting and direct sowing at the best moment in the agricultural season.

According to the Ministry of Water Conservancy, the level of water sources has so far been normal. The conveyance of water [into fields] has been fairly well done.

In 9 provinces situated in the region to be irrigated by electric pumps, water has been drawn into 82.7 percent of the planned area. This achievement is due partly to the fact that the wet plowing ratio has been higher than [in the same period] last year, that canals have been dredged rather satisfactorily, that there has been a high degree of moisture in the air and that the application of the new contract system has induced cooperative members to use their physical strength to actively bail water by hand into fields. However, there is some water shortage in certain rice growing areas in Nghe Tinh, Ha Nam Ninh, Thanh Hoa, Binh Tri Thien and Vinh Phu.

The first weeding stage has been performed on 136,000 hectares pertaining to the area cultivated with the early rice. In general, the weeding rate is still slow. The supply of nitrate fertilizer is also belated. The average quantity of organic fertilizers employed is small--only 2.7 tons per hectare. The area used to grow

azolla is only 50 percent of that in the same period last year. It is necessary for the northern provinces to try by all means to grow seedlings on yards and to carry out dense and direct sowing in order to fulfill and even overfulfill the transplanting area.

As of 15 February, the southern provinces have transplanted the winter-spring rice on 523,000 hectares representing 76.2 percent of the plan norm--with 67.6 percent for the provinces from Thuan Hai southward, 95.4 percent for An Giang, 93.3 for Nghia Binh, 91.3 percent for Quang Nam-Danang, 90 percent for Phu Khanh and 87.4 percent for Tien Giang. Low sowing and transplanting norms have been obtained in Cuu Long, Song Be and Tay Ninh Provinces and in Ho Chi Minh City.

Generally speaking, the winter-spring riceplants in South Vietnam have grown well and are forming boots but harmful insects and diseases are plaguing some rice areas. The provinces of Long An, Ben Tre and Kien Giang are harvesting the early winter-spring rice the yield of which is rather high in some of Long An's districts such as Vam Co with 40 quintals, Can Duoc with 21 quintals and Ben Thu with 29 quintals [of paddy] per hectare.

Since the beginning of the current winter-spring season, Hanoi has expanded the system of rice-product contract with laborers. Of 337 cooperatives throughout the municipality, 171 have signed contracts with laborers and 39 with labor groups. Over three-fourths of the total number of cooperatives in Hoai Duc, Dong Anh, Me Linh, Soc Son and Thanh Tri Districts have signed end-product contracts with laborers.

Wherever the product contract system is applied, cooperative members have become really enthusiastic about labor, the household work force has been used fully and effectively, the soil plowed carefully, sufficient amounts of fertilizers, seeds and seedlings made available and transplanting carried out rapidly. In the current agricultural season, cooperative members have fully used scattered and fallow land to grow rice. The [Hanoi] Municipal Party Committee has directed installations subordinate to party organizations to achieve a high degree of unanimity which must be considered to be a matter of principle in implementing directive No 100 of the Party Central Committee Secretariat on the application of the product contract system in agriculture. The Municipal Party Committee has guided the implementation of initial measures aimed at improving the quality of contracts and extolling the cooperatives' sense of responsibility and their members' sense of collective ownership. District party committees have been advised to pay respect to the grassroots level instead of forcing it to act according to the committees' expectation; nevertheless, the district level must firmly control the grassroots level and promptly detect positive factors and correct deviations likely to arise during the application of the contract system. Along with implementing the contract system, many districts have conducted basic investigations to grasp the grassroots situation and to associate the contract system with the objective of developing production, strengthening cooperatives, rebuilding their scale and satisfactorily ensuring the three types of interests. The former 23 cooperatives in Dong Anh District have been organized and expanded into 53 new ones, the former 198 production units in Thach That District into 240 new ones, the former 217 [production] units in Phuc Tho District into 320 new ones to meet managerial requirements and the cadres' standards of knowledge.

Hoai Duc, Dong Anh, Thach That and Phuc Tho Districts have organized advanced training courses on the contract system for cadres belonging to production units and cooperative management boards.

The municipality is also guiding cooperatives to tackle specific tasks. It is first necessary to oppose the practice of establishing overall or underhand contracts and to loosely apply the plan. While affirming that the laboring people are the object of the contract system, it is necessary to avoid the tendency to let out work on contract to individuals because this practice will weaken specialized units and various trades in cooperatives. Research must be conducted to classify lands in strict conformity with their characteristics and to avoid contract-assignment of small and scattered areas. The output required by contract must be reasonable because if it is too high, cooperative members will reject the contract; on the other hand, the tendency in some localities to lower the contract output must be avoided. It is necessary to work out a fair system of reward and penalty, to wisely regulate the use of materials and tools to effectively serve production purposes and also to prevent disputes [over such equipment] which will likely cause disunity among peasants.

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AGRICULTURE

EDITORIAL URGES SIGNING OF CONTRACTS ON FARM PRODUCTS

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 23 Jan 81 p 1

[Editorial: "Signing Products Contracts and Strengthening New Production Relationships"]

[Text] The purpose of signing contracts on products and of other work related to the management of agricultural cooperatives is to develop production, to raise economic effectiveness, to strengthen the socialist production relationships in rural areas, to raise cooperative members' income and living standard and to increase the cooperatives' accumulation and the volume of farm products available for the common needs. With the realities of many different localities having assigned products on contract, and with the enthusiasm of large numbers of cooperative members and cadres advocating the extension of this form of contract as well, there is enough basis to confirm this: it is not only a new positive factor but also a necessary correct position in the difficult struggle to move our agriculture toward a large-scale socialist production. As it encourages the legitimate interests of the working people and truly binds everybody with the final products, to sign products contracts evidently stimulates labor enthusiasm and concentrates the creativity of cooperative members on the goal of raising labor productivity and economic effectiveness, and through it consolidating the cooperatives.

To perfect the new production relationships in agriculture is a process that begins with positively establishing the system of collective ownership of the major means of production, on that basis realizing the ownership right of cooperative members, ceaselessly improving management and achieving distribution based on labor. To transform the ownership system is the extremely important opening job, the lack of which means the new production relationships cannot be born. However, if we stop at this job and fail to organize collective labor well, to provide new technical equipment, to exploit the potentiality of land, occupations and the existing material base -- i. e., to manage the economy effectively -- nor to fully carry out the principle of labor-based distribution combined with improved

collective welfare, the new production relationships will have no substance. As a result, not only does it fail to develop the positive effects of promoting the development of the productive force but it can even be eroded, weakened and finally reduced to an empty shell, thus having not much of an effect on social progress. The socialist economic management has its own principles and obeys definite laws that must not be violated or conveniently bypassed. Depending on the characteristics of production organization, the nature of labor and the capabilities of tools and equipment, as well as on the crop-growing habits in each locality, an appropriate form of management is to be applied. There is no form that is solely correct and unchangeable and transcends both space and time. To assign products on contract is a form of progressive and scientific production management and payment for labor that closely binds the interests and responsibilities of production units and workers to the final products and thus constitutes a motivation for production development. In agreement with the present level of organization and management of agricultural cooperatives, it has the obvious effects of consolidating the new production relationships. Later when our agriculture has reached the level of mainly using machinery and the managerial capabilities of our cadres have improved, this form of on-contract assignment could actually change, but the principle of binding the interests and responsibilities of workers to the final products will remain for a long time.

With the primary purpose of further encouraging the legitimate interests of workers, it is a suitable form of management that needs to be widely applied to various crops (including rice), animal husbandry and occupations in cooperatives (including the progressive cooperatives). For the cooperatives in the highlands and the cooperatives and production collectives in the South, it is necessary to try it first and to draw some experience before widely applying it. In the face of the new factors and the tendency toward eventual development, any attitude of waiting and listening, or reluctance and hesitation is wrong.

As agricultural production is multifaceted, the job of assigning products on contract is a complicated one; and since the time to carry it on is still a short one up to now and there is not much experience yet, there are aspects that are far from perfect. The VCP Central Committee secretariat has issued a directive about it. By correctly implementing the Central Committee regulations and having tight leadership we can avoid deviations. Cooperatives must achieve good division of labor and cooperation, perfect the system of economic and technical norms that serves as a basis for determining the norms to be assigned on contract and ceaselessly improve the system of distribution of income, with reward and punishment to be carried out in a just manner. On the other hand, there must be bylaws that clearly define the things to be avoided, such as avoiding to scatter the material and technical base and thus to weaken the collective economy, avoiding to give land to cooperative members for them to use freely, avoiding to assign individuals the entire production process ranging from soil preparations to harvest, etc.

Except for a number of major areas in the Mekong delta where working on an individual basis still remains, the outstanding and common characteristics of agriculture in our country presently are: land, according to the Constitution, is the common property of the entire society; the principal means of production belong to the collectives (in the case of cooperatives) or to the people (in the case of state-operated enterprises); the managerial role belongs to the society, through policies of the state and leadership of the party. With such guarantees, the socialist production relationships cannot be weakened. On the contrary, by correctly implementing specific principles and regulations and having regular leadership and control, we can further improve the new production relationships everyday along with the momentum that brings about increases of labor productivity, economic effectiveness and income of cooperative members.

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AGRICULTURE

HAIPHONG EXTENDS RICE PRODUCTION CONTRACTS TO WORKERS

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 23 Jan 81 pp 2, 4

[Article by Doan Duy Thanh, chairman, Haiphong People's Committee:
"Haiphong Extends Signing of Products Contracts to Workers for Rice Growing"]

[Text] Haiphong is an industrial city, a harbor-city. Its total natural area is 115,000 hectares. Its population is 1.27 million.

The agricultural areas of rural Haiphong have a rice-growing area of 46,000 hectares; in average, the per capita land area is more than 360 square meters.

Its rice crop yield sometimes reached 5 tons per hectare (in 1976). Of its 160 cooperatives 34 obtained 5 tons of paddy or more per hectare. The herd of hogs also grew in size nicely, with 233,000 heads (in 1976). But the overall agricultural production in its rural areas was far from stable. In many years, the state had to provide hardship assistance to these rural areas. Even in the cooperatives that obtained high rice crop yield, the living conditions of farmers in the preharvest period encountered many difficulties. In the cooperatives that did poorly, the situation was even more difficult.

In recent years, agricultural production was declining further in both crop growing and animal raising. In 1977 the herd of hogs went down to 166,000 heads. Although the land area was not much and the population was large, there was not a single year in which rice was grown in the entire available area; plowing was behind schedule, transplanting of rice seedlings was late, the yield was low and the grain obligation to the state was not fulfilled properly. The life of the majority of farmers was full of hardship. The nonagricultural population, meanwhile, was pretty large (470,000, or one-third of the city's population). Every year the state had to provide Haiphong with from 110,000 to 120,000 tons of grain, but in 1980 the state supply it with only 70,000 tons, a decrease of 35,000 tons as compared with 1979. Thus its land was not capable of feeding the city's entire population yet. And yet the quantities of grain supplied by the state were greatly decreasing.

In such a situation, the urgent thing for our city to do was to concentrate all efforts on producing grain and foods, ensuring the livelihood of 800,000 rural people and lending some support to the urban areas.

Every year we did propose the goal of obtaining a rice crop yield of 4.5-5 tons per hectare, but how to attain such a goal was something that still caused much confusion. In the meantime, there was the phenomenon of farmers being not so enthusiastic about their land. In some areas ricefields were left idle and people were short of foods and starving.

From that situation, we then organized an effort to get to understand a number of cooperatives that had been doing poorly and found that one of the reason for their poor performance was the fact that production organization had been mechanical and the measures taken to encourage cooperative members to raise the quality of labor had not been satisfactory. Workers who would directly produce were not encouraged to raise their responsibility for the final product.

Applying the spirit of the resolution of the 6th Plenum of the VCP Central Committee, we closely looked into the way of assigning on contract the production of vegetables to members of Du Hang Kenh and Dang Hai Cooperatives (An Hai District), Bac Ha Cooperative and My Duc Cooperative (Kien An District). Then we signed on a trial basis hog-raising contracts using the 15 percent of land put aside for animal raising with members of 4 cooperatives in the former An Thuy District. The first results showed that productivity and output both obviously increased.

At the time the municipality was directing the trial work, some localities like Do Son, An Hai, Thuy Nguyen and Tien Lang also saw the voluntary action of a number of cooperatives to organize "signing products contracts" in part of the rice-growing areas with workers themselves, which had some positive aspects but still remained shaky at best.

The meeting of our Municipal VCP Standing Committee in April 1980 decided to allow the production installations that were doing the work to continue doing it while waiting for an official resolution from the committee.

After that our committee continued to study the situation carefully and compared it with the party's policy and views on development of agricultural production, particularly the view on combining the three interests in compliance with the spirit of the 6th Plenum resolution.

The Municipal VCP Standing Committee conference discussed and issued an official resolution on 27 June 1980 (Resolution No 24) about consolidating the organization of agricultural cooperatives for the purpose of stepping up grain production through five major steps: adjusting the sizes of cooperatives and production

units; perfecting the ranks of cadres, first of all the key cadres of cooperatives and production units; achieving two forms of assigning on contract; improving the operations of management boards of cooperatives; and improving the leadership of basic party committees.

The resolution of the committee was widely and quickly disseminated among party members and members of agricultural cooperatives, received favorable response from the majority of them and was actively carried out. So far the efforts to re-organize agricultural cooperatives and production units and to perfect the ranks of cadres, particularly to adopt the form of signing products contracts with workers, have brought about many results.

Adjusting Size of Cooperatives, Production Units

Prior to implementing Resolution No 24, the municipality had 160 agricultural cooperatives and 1,665 production units; now after the adjustment, we have 168 cooperatives with areas commonly ranging from 200 to 300 hectares and 2,137 production units having areas of about 23 hectares and 60-80 workers each. Each unit has several groups, with about 10 workers each and a land area of about 2 hectares. These groups of cooperative members consist of people living close to one another and having relations as relatives and old neighbors, which makes it convenient for them to discuss with and assist one another in productive labor, thus facilitating both division of work and cooperation in production.

Perfecting Ranks of Cadres

To consolidate organization and to put leading cadres -- first the ones who hold key positions like party committee secretaries, cooperative directors, party chapter secretaries and production unit leaders -- in the right positions is a decisive factor for the effort to improve managerial methods aimed at promoting agricultural production, first of all production of grain and foods.

We relied on how cadres would fulfill their political task and do everyday work, as well as the issuance of party membership cards, to evaluate their qualities, capabilities and level of knowledge in order to put them in the right positions. Recently this job was done in a democratic way, with strict leadership and guidance as to the standards applicable to cadres, as party members and cooperative members discussed, offered their opinion and observation and selected cadres by secret ballots. As a result, 927 cadres holding key positions, or 20 percent of the total number of key cadres, were selected and 722 cadres were replaced because of limited capabilities and wrongdoings.

In addition to replacing and adding cadres, we attached importance to guiding and providing cadres with advanced training to help them to grasp the content of the resolution, to raise their sense of responsibility and working capacity and to promote good changes in the movement.

Different Forms of Contracts

In the 1980 tenth-month rice crop season, 33 cooperatives still continued the forms of "3 contracts" and "job contracts"; 127 cooperatives adopted both forms or one form, "products contracts (signed) with workers," for 20-100 percent of the tenth-month rice-growing areas of the cooperatives. In the 1981 fifth-month and spring rice crop season, of 168 agricultural cooperatives as many as 152, or 90 percent, applied the "products contracts with workers" to all of their rice-growing areas. At present, there remain 16 cooperatives that adopt the "job contracts" form.

a. The cooperatives that adopted the "job contracts" form made improvements to overcome their previous weaknesses by settling work points for production units in accordance with the products obtained and making reward or punishment in kind for 100 percent of cases. Some cooperatives even encouraged everybody to take part in labor and to sell fertilizer to them. For retired workers and cadres still capable of working, workers and cadres on leave and students taking part in labor, they received the same work points as the ones being awarded to cooperative members.

However, this form still had weaknesses: it failed to link the responsibility of workers with the final product; it was difficult to verify the harvest and to judge work quality in an accurate manner; to pay for labor did not reflect the principle of distribution based on labor, nor did it mobilize every labor potential; cooperative members paid more attention to work points than to the quality of their work.

b. For the cooperatives that adopted the form of "products contracts with workers," although the form was still new, it was welcomed and accepted by almost all cooperative members and cadres. At the beginning, a few cadres worried that adopting this form would weaken the socialist production relationships in agriculture, do away with the material and technical bases that had been built for the last 20 years and affect the moving toward the socialist large-scale production and consequently remained cautious and showed no determination to carry it out. But through what actually happened, the manifestations of the above-mentioned way of thinking were gradually resolved as many cooperatives quickly switched to the form of "products contracts with workers."

Many cooperatives have done well as they adopted this form of contracts from the 1980 tenth-month rice crop and have been carrying it out through the winter crop season up to the present 1981 fifth-month and spring rice season. The fact that the operations of management boards and the division of work and cooperation among members in those cooperatives were better and closer has helped to carry out this form of contracts in many links in the production line, with the sense of responsibility of cadres and cooperative members being heightened. As a result,

in the last tenth-month rice crop season, although the weather changed irregularly, Typhoons Nos 4 and 6 flooded up to 22,000 hectares forcing retransplanting of 7,000 hectares and the shortage of fertilizers and insecticide was serious, the results obtained were still pretty good. The tenth-month rice cultivated area was increased by 1.2 percent over the previous year. In spite of the fact that the tenth-month rice yield of 23.02 quintals per hectare was 8 percent lower than that of the previous crop season, considering the difficult conditions such a result reflected a great effort. The gross grain production converted to paddy equivalent was 221,729 tons in the entire year, an increase of 6.3 percent over 1979 and 4.2 percent over 1976, which recorded the highest volume of production. Although the winter crop production encountered difficulties because of prolonged heavy rains, the total cultivated areas of vegetables and subsidiary food crops still remained about the same as those of last year.

The growing of the 1981 fifth-month and spring rice crop was being done with a greater sense of urgency. Plowing for aeration was completed on 25 December 1980, 10 days ahead of schedule as compared with the previous years. Sowing showed an increase of 10 percent over the last crops, with production currently being in a new spirit.

Animal husbandry was showing good development, too. As of 1 October 1980, the number of hogs was 225,831, an increase of 7.1 percent over the same period in 1979. If the hogs raised in the urban areas were included, the total number would be close to 250,000.

Thanks to the above-mentioned results, Haiphong was able to fulfill early its obligation of 23,299 tons of grain, 299 tons over the level set in its plan, 5,500 tons of pork, 30,000 tons of vegetables and nearly 1,000 tons of tobacco (for water pipes).

Improving Agricultural Management

The purpose of improving the method of agricultural management is to step up production, mostly production of grain and foods.

Fully understanding the resolution of the 6th Plenum of the VCP Central Committee, Haiphong correctly resolved the question of three interests in the form of "products contracts with workers," which had the effect of mobilizing all labor sources for active participation in production and exploiting every land potential for the making of more agricultural products; encouraged the achievement of the three revolutions, raised the spirit of collective ownership and sense of responsibility of cooperative members in productive labor and fought any negative signs in production and everyday activities; and actively applied scientific and technical progresses like new varieties and soil-preparing, transplanting and caring techniques, while consolidating the production relationships.

As we adopted the form of "products contracts with workers," we were able to draw some observations from the production realities:

a. To be able to mobilize a large part of the labor force working with enthusiasm, self-understanding, high productivity and good quality.

The cooperatives that adopted the form of "products contracts with workers" all had the power to attract everybody into labor: primary labor, secondary labor, students, cadres, troops, on-leave or retired workers, people who were lazy and pretended to be sick, people who left production and switched to business, etc. now all enthusiastically took part in labor. A number of cadres and party members in the cooperatives who had not taken part in labor now accepted on-contract assignments. According to incomplete data of An Hai District, 2,354 persons who had been exempted from labor under the pretext of sickness and 1,831 business people now returned to take part in labor. Thuy Nguyen District reduced by 81 percent the number of indirect cadres of cooperatives. Cooperative members who had worked 5-6 hours a day now worked as much as 8-9 hours, and even 10-12 hours. Therefore, the recent tenth-month rice harvest in those cooperatives was completed 10-15 days ahead of schedule. Plowing for the fifth-month and spring rice crop this year was also finished early. Many cooperatives had finished plowing all of their cultivated areas before 15 December 1980.

Even under the conditions of such a busy crop season, thanks to carrying out the "products contracts," the rural area of Haiphong was still capable of mobilizing the labor force for building the city's key construction projects, such as the Trung Trang sluice, closing the gap on the dike at Route 14 and construction of a road leading to Dinh Vu Island.

b. To really exploit the land potential: the cooperatives that signed "products contracts with workers" had virtually no land left uncultivated. In the recent tenth-month rice crop season, the city was able to open 2,000 hectares of new land. In spite of serious floods and the fact that plowing and transplanting had to be done again in some areas, the total cultivated areas were increased by 1.2 percent as compared with the previous year. In Do Son District, although 488 hectares were left fallow in the 1980 fifth-month and spring rice season, the cultivated area goal was surpassed in the recent tenth-month rice crop in spite of many difficulties.

c. To raise the concept of ownership of cooperative members, to fight negative signs in production and everyday activities. Since cooperative members were allowed to take part in drafting plans and setting economic and technical norms for every ricefield and were told after a crop season how much their share of product and how much accumulation for the cooperatives would be, they were working with a definite sense of ownership. Every work was done thoroughly: ricefields

had enough water; ricefield dividers were free of weeds; any missing rice plant was promptly replaced. As harmful insects began to appear, in spite of the difficulty they encountered about getting insecticide, individual cooperative members did not wait for the management boards to act but tried to find by themselves ways to fight insects.

Negative phenomena, which had been occurring quite commonly, were sharply decreasing. Materials and properties were protected and managed better. Fewer rice seeds became rotten while being submersed and covered prior to sowing; few rice seedlings were wasted as they were pulled for later transplanting. The situation in which grains of rice were left on the ground and threshing was done carelessly leaving grains in the discarded straws no longer existed.

d. To fully mobilize materials and capital of cooperative members for collective production, to rationally use and enrich with additional equipment the material base and to encourage achievement of technical progress.

Machines for soil preparations, other machines and water conservancy works were properly managed, protected and used by the cooperatives. Moreover, cooperative members also bought many types of tools by themselves. An Hai and Do Son Districts alone bought 86 additional water buffaloes, 1,963 improved vehicles, 500 junks, 582 spades, etc. Members and their cooperatives used 1,200 tons of paddy to exchange with the state for 400 tons of urea fertilizer for their tenth-month rice crop. "Products contracts with workers" created favorable conditions for carrying out properly the intensive-cultivation technical measures and for learning new techniques. The fields were plowed and harrowed early, with the soil being well aerated; rice seedlings, being of proper maturity, were transplanted on schedule; cooperative members fully used all sources of fertilizers to provide good care, harvested the crop in time and allowed very little losses of paddy. The rice yield was higher than at the time "job contracts" were being used. In Do Son District, in the last tenth-month rice crop season, the "products contracts" cultivated areas accounted for 68.8 percent of the total sowing and transplanting area and obtained an average of 25 quintals per hectare, as compared with the low yield of 19 quintals per hectare obtained from 30.2 percent of the "job contracts" cultivated areas.

e. To strengthen and consolidate the socialist production relationships in agriculture.

The cooperatives that had had poor production and then adopted the "products contracts with workers" form in the last tenth-month rice crop obtained higher rice crop yield and production than in the previous crops. Cooperative members who had higher income now showed greater interest in and attachment to their cooperatives.

In Do Son District, as the tenth-month rice production was increased by 1,372 tons as compared with the same crop in 1979, both the grain and food obligations to the state were fulfilled, with the former being fulfilled at the earliest time as compared with all other districts. The funds made up of paddy for reproduction and welfare were increased by 82 tons as compared with 1979. The average per capita grain consumption was increased by 3 kilograms per month (excluding the shares given to those cooperative members who surpassed the assigned volume of production).

Cooperatives granted "priority" to families of wounded soldiers and dead heroes and families having few members while assigning on contract, thus creating favorable conditions for these families to fulfill the assigned levels of production.

Meanwhile, handicraft occupations in the cooperatives were still maintained and developed. Military recruiting surpassed the plan goal. A combining of consolidating organization and perfecting the capabilities of cadres with adopting the form of "products contracts with workers" thus made the organization strong and the internal ranks united and strengthened the relationships between cadres and the people and between cooperatives and the state.

Operations of Management Boards

In a number of cooperatives, the regular work was organized and divided as follows:

- The director of the cooperative management board signed contract with the machinery station of the district or assigned on contract its own smaller machine unit to prepare the soil by machine. Production unit chiefs assigned on contract groups of laborers or laborers to plow with the help of water buffaloes. The management board director determined the areas to be used for seedling production, the allocation of rice varieties and sowing and transplanting schedule for each and every ricefield, and assigned on contract the units or groups specialized in preparing seeds -- the latter are a part of production units -- to produce and select seeds, to keep seed storehouses and to prepare seeds before sowing. He assigned on contract water conservancy units and cooperative members to pump water by machine and to bring water into level-3 ditches. He assigned on contract the teams and cooperative members specialized in the prevention and control of harmful insects to spray insecticide.

After plans were drafted and economic and technical norms were set, cooperative management board directors and production unit chiefs had to supervise on a regular basis groups of cooperative members and individual cooperative members as they correctly observed the allocation of rice varieties, crop schedules and other important technical steps. The management boards assigned on contract

all of the jobs involved within the rice production process, but still strengthened control and closely guided every job in accordance with the actual division of work and cooperation for every person. Thus the process of carrying out "products contracts with workers" was the realization of division of work and labor cooperation.

However, since this was a new kind of work, some cooperatives did not do it well at the beginning. A number of cooperative management boards remained subjective as they simply thought that implementing Resolution No 24 would mean less work for the cooperatives' cadres and thus underestimated their own supervisory responsibilities, particularly in connection with the material bases like sources of water, draft animals, chemical fertilizers, insecticide, etc. A number of cooperatives were late in carrying out "products contracts" for the 1980 tenth-month rice crop and had to face the situation in which many of their members demanded a lowering of the levels assigned, thus affecting the interests of the collective. Or in the case of some other cooperatives, because their management boards did not understand thoroughly and wanted to have high overall wages, they set the assigned norms for volume of production too high, thus failing to serve the interests of cooperative members.

Basic Party Committee Leadership

Almost all party organizations of agricultural production installations recently urgently disseminated and promoted the understanding of Resolution No 24 in the party and the mass organizations. Many party installations stressed the responsibility for assuming leadership over fully implementing the resolution. Many basic party organizations encouraged the right of collective ownership of party and cooperative members in judging cadres and party members; closely followed the standards of selecting new cadres for replacement or strengthening purposes; and took part in consolidating organization, adjusting the sizes of cooperatives and production units and dividing cooperative members into groups. Many key cadres and party members at the basic level upheld the role of pioneering and setting examples, taking part in labor and working closely with the people to better the relations between the party and the people.

Although at the beginning some party and party committee members were still reluctant, they had to carry out the resolution because of pressure from cooperative members. In some cases, too much stress was put on the form of "products contracts with workers" while little attention was paid to other aspects. About perfecting the capabilities of cadres, many installations were still too slow. There were shortcomings in the implementation of major policies in the installations as they carried out the resolution, which were corrected too slowly after they had been uncovered. A number of cadres who knew that carrying out the resolution would create a conflict of personal interests tried to decline the task.

District-Level Leadership

Many district party committees promptly accepted the spirit of the resolution at the time it was still a draft. Then as soon as the resolution was official, they began to urgently assume leadership over its implementation.

Almost all district party committees had their own resolutions for organizing such implementation, which was linked with the immediate production task and other tasks of the localities. Members of district party committees, members of district people's committees, the executive committees of mass organizations and a number of committee chairmen and deputy chairmen of districts assumed direct leadership over implementation of the resolution at the basic level.

Do Son, Tien Lang, Kien An and An Hai Districts succeeded in finding in time the cooperatives that had done the job well, further strengthening them and drawing leadership experience for application within the districts. Some other districts actively studied a number of temporary regulations and guided the cooperatives within their localities toward implementing them.

By correctly accepting the resolution and assuming leadership over its implementation many districts had good changes in the fifth-month rice harvest, in growing the 1980 tenth-month rice crop, in growing the 1981 winter and fifth-month and spring rice crops, in fulfilling their grain and food obligation, in military recruiting, etc., thus opening up new prospects in the effort to step up agricultural production.

However, in the course of implementing Resolution No 24, the district party committees also had to fight hard to overcome many obstacles and shaky starts, such as the opinion of some people who wanted to sign "products contracts" for only a part of the rice-growing areas with workers. There were some district leading cadres who at the beginning were undecided and lacked strong belief and determination, which led to their fear that a quick implementation of the resolution would interfere with growing the tenth-month rice crop. The dissemination of the resolution down among party and cooperative members at the basic level was far from complete, keen and democratic.

We have found that the role of the district level in assuming leadership over implementation of the resolution was very important because as organs of direct leadership over agricultural cooperatives, the districts played a decisive role in assuming such leadership over implementation of the resolution in the agricultural production cooperatives.

Work Lying Ahead

Our city will continue to assume urgent and tight leadership over perfecting the

implementation of Resolution No 24 and to link it with fulfilling the 1981 state plan of the city so as to score total victory.

As an immediate task we concentrate on the following work:

1. To continue to promote thorough understanding of the resolution among all sectors and echelons, down to cooperatives, production units, cadres and cooperative members, combined with total understanding of the directive of the VCP Central Committee secretariat about improving on-contract assignment and extending "products contracts," for the purpose of achieving a high degree of unanimity with regard to the concept, views and measures to take to carry on the job and creating strength in leadership over implementation of the resolution.
2. To perfect and strengthen leadership and guidance at the district level.

This is the key to ensuring total implementation of the resolution and the temporary regulations of the Municipal People's Committee for the purpose of stepping up agricultural production, including crop-growing, animal husbandry and occupations, first of all production of grain and foods; organizing good living conditions for residents of the districts; making the districts better while consolidating the cooperatives; and perfecting the party organization, administration and mass organizations at the basic level. To concentrate district leadership and guidance so as to avoid in 1981-1982 the situation in which there will be as many weak and poor cooperatives and party organizations as there are today.

In addition to adjusting the size of a number of cooperatives and production units as it is necessary to do so for the sake of production development, we advocate making positive efforts to create favorable conditions for a rational redistribution of labor to ensure having enough manpower for rice growing. The excess labor will be switched to developing other occupations in the cooperatives or sent away to open new land, to exploit the sea and to help build new economic zones in the districts, the municipality or other provinces, mostly in the densely populated districts.

3. To study ways to perfect the form of "products contracts with workers" for all jobs in the production line so as to link the responsibilities of workers doing each assigned job with the final product. To apply "products contracts" to crop growing, animal husbandry and all occupations in the agricultural cooperatives.

To materialize the three interests in signing "products contracts" in agriculture with every cooperative and every member so that prior to production both would know how much of the products they put out they can use, how much obligation to the state (taxes and sales at directed prices) and how much will be the share of accumulation of the cooperative.

At the same time, our Municipal VCP Committee, the specialized sectors and the district party committees study the signing of contracts in the sectors that directly serve agriculture, such as water conservancy, machinery, electric power and agricultural materials, to link with the results of agricultural cooperatives' production.

4. To continue stepping up the task of raising the capabilities of key cadres of the cooperatives in connection with the city's actual regulations, for the purpose of implementing Resolution No 24, with efforts being concentrated on such matters as adjusting the size of cooperatives and production units, perfecting the forms of assignment on contract and perfecting the organizational machinery for implementation.

In addition to providing advanced training to raise the qualities, capabilities and managerial capacity of cadres, we will strengthen control work, resolutely replace those cadres who do not live up to standards or are not trusted by the masses and ensure an organization that is clean and strong and has internal solidarity.

Goals for Coming Years

We will be striving:

- To use all of the presently available land and not to leave an inch of it idle.
- About rice crop yield, to do well such jobs as water conservancy, fertilizers (human waste, green manure, stable manure and lime are the principal ones), care for crops, new varieties and prevention and control of harmful insects to be sure to obtain 4.7-5 tons per hectare.
- To reach the volume of production of 230,000 tons of paddy and 20,000 tons of subsidiary foods in paddy equivalent so as to have 250,000 tons of grain in paddy equivalent.

On the other hand, to actively export agricultural products and to do so on the spot so as to import fertilizers (urea nitrogen) for exchanges with farmers, with a kilogram of urea nitrogen providing 7 kilograms of additional paddy. If we can carry out this intention on our part, our volume of production will increase proportionally with the nitrogenous fertilizer we use.

- About animal husbandry, on the basis of the results obtained from signing contracts on a trial basis for raising hogs in 15 percent of the land put aside for animal husbandry, we will extend it to the entire municipality so as to try to raise 260,000 hogs in 1981, including the hogs raised in urban areas, and to exceed the obligation sales to the state now set at 5,700 tons of meat, live weight.

We plan to put aside 1-2 percent of land areas for on-contract duck raising both to get meat and to export duck feathers. In 1981, Haiphong will try to increase the duck population to 30,000 female ducks and from 30,000 to 40,000 meat ducks.

- About vegetables, our municipality has put aside 1,000 hectares for specialized vegetable production and next year will make it 1,500 hectares. The volume of vegetables purchased will be increased from 30,000 tons in 1980 to 35,000 tons in 1981 and growing vegetables for export will be further stepped up.

In addition to practicing intensive cultivation for raising crop yields, we will actively open new land and even move to the edge of the sea to increase the cultivated areas. We plan to put into production in 1981 3,000 additional hectares (1,000 hectares more than the increase in 1980). At the same time, we will improve the new land-opening areas along Route 14 and of Vinh Quang, Gia Minh, Dinh Vu State Farms, etc.

The areas of new land being opened at the edge of the sea will thus be 6,550 hectares and 4,000 hectares will be used for rice production by 1982-1983. The possibility of Haiphong to open new land at the edge of the sea remains very great. After having filled the mouth of Cam River, we will study further moves in the succeeding years. We consider the above-mentioned measures part of the managerial task being aimed at exploiting the labor and land potential with little capital investment and high economic effectiveness. The party organization and people of Haiphong are now determined to develop the combined strength of the municipality in order to achieve the above-mentioned goals, to step up the production of grain and foods, to stabilize and gradually improve the standard of living and to join the entire nation in actively overcoming the grain supply difficulties.

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TRANSFORMATION OF AGRICULTURE IN GIA LAI-KON TUM DISCUSSED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 16 Mar 81 p 2

[Article by Nam Vinh, Acting Secretary of the Gia Lai-Kon Tum Provincial Party Committee: "Agricultural Transformation in Gia Lai-Kon Tum"]

[Text] After 4 years of agricultural transformation, Gia Lai-Kon Tum Province has achieved a number of initial results. To date, 54 percent of the agricultural workers and 59 percent of the cultivated land have been brought into 43 cooperatives and 869 production collectives. If more than 100 production solidarity teams are included, more than 70 percent of the agricultural workers are producing in large or small collective production organizations. Nearly 80 percent of the cooperatives and production collectives produce at the average level or higher. The income per work day is between one and five kilograms of grain. In such places, the material and spiritual lives of the peasants are far better than when they were engaged in individual production.

By transforming agriculture, Gia Lai-Kon Tum has essentially ended its chronic hunger. Furthermore, it has fulfilled its grain obligation by providing 20,000 to 30,000 tons of grain a year to support those who are serving in the army, the enterprises, the factories, etc. And only by means of the collective production form can Gia Lai-Kon Tum contribute tens of millions of work days to society, build roads, build cultural and public welfare installations, withdraw thousands of workers from agriculture to provide workers for the armed forces, the factories, the construction sites, etc.

With the transformation of agriculture, solidarity between ethnic Vietnamese and the ethnic minority people, and between the people of Gia Lai-Kon Tum and the people who have come to supplement the labor force has become increasingly stronger, and cannot be shattered by the reactionaries and bad elements.

During 4 years of transforming agriculture, Gia Lai-Kon Tum has learned very valuable lessons:

The most important thing is that there must be land and water. Due to the special characteristics of the old, backward production there, which was carried out principally by creating slash-burn fields and thinning out trees, if such slash-burn fields and production facilities consisting of knives, mattocks, sickles, backpack baskets, etc., were used as the basis for organizing collective production, it was certain that it could not succeed. It was essential in the beginning to have

fixed habitation and cultivation, create fields (mainly wet rice fields), and build irrigation projects in order to grow two rice crops. Two-crop rice fields are the most accurate yardstick for measuring the level of production and the solidity of the collective agricultural production bases in Gia Lai-Kon Tum. Experience shows that only in the places which produce wet rice can collective living standards exceed those of individual peasants. There is a simple reason for that: individual peasants cannot build irrigation works in order to grow rice, especially during the spring season. During the initial years the Bang Re production collective's production was unstable, but during the 1979 spring season it grew hectares of spring rice and harvested 16 tons of paddy, which was equal to the slash-burn rice output for all of 1978. Thanks to spring rice, Bang Re has been able to strengthen its collective and improve the living standards of the collective members. Some of the winter-spring rice fields belonging to the Dien Binh cooperative attained yields of 9.8 tons per hectare, five times greater than the yields on slash-burn rice fields. For that reason, the accomplishments in transforming agriculture are tied in with the accomplishments in clearing wasteland, irrigation, and fixed cultivation and habitation. During the past several years, more than 60,000 hectares of wasteland have been cleared, more than 40 medium-sized irrigation works have been built, and more than 1,000 irrigation and fixed cultivation and habitation sites have been constructed.

With regard to cadre training, in the ethnic minority (Bananar, Jami, Stieng, Sedang, etc.) areas the cultural level is not high, so when they enter into collective production the peasants often encounter difficulties in drafting production plans, dividing up income, monitoring the seasonal schedule and work points, etc. There are many production collectives which, because they cannot keep tabs and calculate, must distribute the output in an egalitarian way by dividing it equally among the households, and the back-pick basket is the unit of weighing and measuring. And because of the level of the management cadres, in many cooperatives and production collectives the peasants have a very high degree of consciousness and good solidarity but cannot avoid laggard production which leads to bad consequences. Therefore, with regard to the cooperative and production collective cadres in Gia Lai-Kon Tum, it is not only necessary to teach them management methods and new cultivation techniques but also, and first of all, gradually raise their cultural levels.

The best formula is that within the structure of a cooperative or a production collective there be both Vietnamese and ethnic minority people. That method of organization is not merely a way to strengthen the solidarity between the Vietnamese and the ethnic minority people, but is also a way to gradually raise the levels of the ethnic minority peoples. With regard to the cooperatives and production collectives there, the economic structure must be an agriculture-forestry or forestry-agriculture structure in order to exploit the strengths of a mountain-area province. Such a structure will create a division of labor that is appropriate to the level of each type of worker.

Scale is an important consideration. If the scale is too small, the superiority of collective production cannot be exploited. But if the scale is too large it will conflict with the managerial level of the cadres. Some of the cooperatives in Gia Lai-Kon Tum, such as the Doan Ket and Dien Binh cooperatives, have rather large scales but because the leadership cadres know how to do their work, and because there are good material-technical bases, they are stable. But there are also such

cooperatives as the Dac To Can cooperative, which had an excessively large area (20,372 hectares of natural land, including 731 cultivated hectares), so the cadres cannot "handle" it. Therefore, Dac To Can could not have advanced if it had not been divided into four cooperatives.

From that we can see that in order to be suitable to its level a cooperative should have at most 150 hectares of wet-rice land. The largest production collective should have about 30 hectares. The rest should be subsidiary food crop and industrial crop land.

During 4 years of agricultural transformation, Gia Lai-Kon Tum has achieved good results, which proves that its course of advance is appropriate for a mountain-region province. The peasants there have true confidence in the new production mode. In such districts and cities as Dac To, Play Cy, Kon Tum, and An Khe nearly all the workers and land have entered into collective production. But there are also some remote districts and villages the movement is still weak. That is because the guidance of the party committee echelons and governmental administrations has not yet "reached them," because the movement is not tightly controlled, or because there is no strong determination.

On the basis of the results and experiences it has attained during the recent period, Gia Lai-Kon Tum Province is endeavoring to advance to the completion of agricultural reform. It is determined to maintain, and gradually improve the quality of, the fixed cultivation and habitation movement. It is endeavoring to enable the cooperatives and production collectives to, within a brief period of time, catch up with and surpass such advanced models as Dien Binh, Doan Ket, Dac La, Sa Binh, Dac Rang, Tang Xe, Bang Re, production collective No 3, and Ac Bo So.

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NGHIA BINH PROMOTES AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVIZATION

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 13 Mar 61 p 2

[Article: "Nghia Binh Improves Quality of Management, Consolidates Cooperatives"]

[Text] Recently, Nghia Binh has concentrated on guiding, consolidating, and continuing to develop the cooperativisation movement. There are 363 cooperatives in the province. The average scale of a cooperative is 356 hectares. In 1980, Nghia Binh organised 100 cooperatives and 368 production collectives in the mountain region. Each collective has about 14 cultivated hectares.

The localities are reviewing the weak and deficient cooperatives in order to apply such consolidation measures as perfecting organization, providing management training for cadres, and stabilizing the scales of cooperatives and production units so that they may be appropriate to the capabilities of each cooperative. The task of organizing and managing labor has gradually gotten on the right track. The improvement of the financial work has been accompanied by the implementation of the "five opens" system within the cooperatives. Therefore, at present all of the cooperatives have implemented liquidation and balancing. Some 152 cooperatives continually implement the "five opens" system, and 286 cooperatives implement the system of accounting 43 accounts. The material-technical bases directly serving production have gradually been strengthened, such as by building irrigation networks, improving and repairing machinery to pump water, prepare the soil, spray insecticides on the crops, etc., and gradually and effectively introduce technical advances into production.

last year, management training was provided for 1,600 cadres (197 cooperative directors, 170 members of management boards, 170 people's committee chairmen and village party committee secretaries, and 64 party chapter secretaries.

In many cooperatives, most of the party members have directly participated in leadership and occupy key positions in the cooperative management boards and production units.

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AGRICULTURAL SITUATION IN NORTH AND SOUTH UPDATED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 13 Mar 81 pp 1,4

[Article: "As of 5 March, Nation Had Planted 1,544,000 Hectares of Winter-Spring Rice, More Than At Same Period Last Year"]

[Text] According to the Statistics General Department, as of 5 March the nation as a whole had planted 1,544,000 hectares, equal to 87.6 percent of the norm, a more rapid rate than at the same time last year (at the same time last year, 1,514,000 hectares had been planted).

The provinces of the north had planted 990,530 hectares of 5th month-spring rice, 92.1 percent of the plan norm (at the same time last year, 883,613 hectares had been planted). The weather is still favorable for planting spring rice. The cooperatives are going all-out to transplant their entire area and surpass the plan by using the contracting-out forms, especially the contracting out of output to workers. By applying the various measures -- sowing courtyard rice seedlings, direct sowing, etc. -- the localities are going all-out to overcome the shortage of rice seedlings. Many provinces have nearly completed their transplanting. For example, Hai Hung and Hai Phong have attained more than 99 percent, Thai Binh has attained 98.1 percent, Nghe Tinh has attained 97.3 percent, Ha Nam Ninh has attained 95.5 percent, Binh Tri Thien has attained 95.4 percent, and Ha Bac 91.8 percent, of their planting plan norms. Many districts have surpassed the planting plan norm: Tinh Gia District in Thanh Hoa has surpassed its plan by 5 percent, Nam Dan District in Nghe Tinh has surpassed its plan by 6 percent, Hiep Hoa District in Ha Bac has surpassed its plan by 3.2 percent, etc.

After planting, the cooperatives have paid attention to tending and fertilising the crops. Thanks to the effect of the contracting-out of final output to workers, this year the planting and weeding of the 5th month-spring rice are ahead of last year's pace. But in general, the weeding has been slow in comparison to the growth requirements of the rice. The area which has been weeded for the first time amounts to 527,000 hectares, equal to 53.2 percent of the transplanted rice area.

More organic fertilizer has been prepared for the rice than last year. This year, nearly 5 million tons (in 1980, nearly 4.4 million tons were prepared). On the average, 4.6 tons were spread on each hectare. Nitrogenous fertilizer has been slow in arriving. The osolla area has fallen short and is equal to only 51.6 percent of last year's area. The area affected by insects and diseases has tended to increase, especially in the provinces of Binh Tri Thien, Nghe Tinh, Ha Nam Ninh, Thanh Hoa, etc.

The quality of electricity supplied for agriculture has been good. The localities have assured relatively sufficient amounts of water with which to plant the entire planned area. Here and there there is a shortage of water. The transplanted 5th month-spring rice is growing well.

As of 5 March the southern provinces had planted 553,000 hectares, 80.7 percent of the plan norm, less than at the same time last year. The provinces south of Thuan Hai have transplanted 373,000 hectares, 71.5 percent of the plan norm, slower rate than at the same time last year. The time for planting winter-spring rice in the south has ended, but the transplanting rate has slowly increased.

The provinces of the south have harvested 102,000 hectares of early rice, equal to 18.5 percent of the transplanted rice area. The provinces which have harvested the most are Long An, 85.1 percent, and Nghia Binh, 37 percent. The provinces have tilled 102,000 hectares of land planted in summer-fall rice.

The Nam Bo provinces are continuing the agricultural cooperativization movement, combined with the promotion of production. During the last months of 1980 and the first part of 1981, the agricultural cooperativization movement in the (former) Nam Bo provinces, have continued to be consolidated and developed, in combination with the promotion of 10th month and winter-spring production.

Many provinces are implementing Directive 93 CT-TW of the Secretariat of the Party Central Committee in order to build and develop the movement. Some provinces have paid attention to guiding and organizing the isolation of experiences, and the multiplication of model progressive production collectives, and are combining building, consolidation, and the correction of deficiencies with developing production and creating confidence on the part of the peasants toward the party's line of agricultural cooperativization.

To date, of the nearly 4,000 production collectives and 182 agricultural cooperatives which have been consolidated and operate in correct accordance with the contents and nature of a socialist collective economic unit, about 720 collectives are good and progressive. Nearly all of the collectives have mobilized 70 to 80 percent of their workers, and in some cases all of their labor, to produce in the fields.

Such districts as Long Phu in Hau Giang Province, Ben Thu in Long An Province, Chau Thanh in Ben Tre Province, and Gia Rai in Minh Hai Province, Vinh Long City, and the districts of Vung Liem in Cuu Long Province, Giong Rieng in Kien Gian Province, and Hoc Mon in Ho Chi Minh City have rather well developed cooperativization movements. In the provinces of the Mekong Delta there are 30 villages and about 200 hamlet production collectives which have completed cooperativization.

During this year's 10th month and winter-spring seasons, nearly all of the collectives have had high yields, the income of their members have increased, the capital accumulation of the collectives has steadily increased, and they have contributed more than the stipulated amounts. More than 430 of the 720 progressive collectives during the recent 10th month season attained rice yields of from three to four tons per hectare. Nearly all of the progressive collectives and the cooperatives which registered to strive to attain average yields of five tons per hectare during the winter-spring season have attained good results. Due to the development of production, the collectives in the Mekong Delta have attained an average work day value

of between 10 and 15 kilograms of paddy. On the average, each worker receives a share of 1.5 tons of paddy and have grain obligations of from 600 kilograms to 1,000 kilograms per hectare. Many collectives have sold the state 1.5 to 2 tons of paddy per hectare. According to a study of 434 collectives, the average amount of capital of a collective increased by from 20,000 to 30,000 dong, and in some cases to 50,000 dong.

However, the cooperativization movement in the provinces of the former Nam Bo is not uniform: 60 percent of the districts do not have movements and have not yet organized production collectives. The Mekong Delta has a large area, but only about five percent of the land has been cooperativized. The elimination of the forms of feudal exploitation by the feudalists, rich peasants, and rural bourgeoisie is still slow. The elimination of the situation of unequal landholdings to create favorable conditions for the peasants to enter upon the collective path has not received adequate attention. Some provinces have not paid adequate attention to building a corps of cadres for the cooperativization movement.

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'NHAN DAN' EDITORIAL PRAISES NEW CONTRACTING-OUT METHOD

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 17 Mar 81 pp 1,4

[Editorial] "Contracting-Out Output and Increasing the Value of a Work Day in the Agricultural Cooperatives"]

[Text Agricultural cooperatives are socialist collective economic organizations. Contracting-out is a production management form that is tied in with organizing labor to implement compensation in cooperatives that is in correct accordance with the principle of distribution according to labor. Contracting-out, like all other forms of management, must have as its objectives developing relationships, improving the cooperative members' living conditions, increasing collective capital accumulation, meeting obligations, and continually increasing agricultural commodities.

In order to contract-out, the cooperatives must have annual and seasonal production-commercial and have norms for material expenditures and labor expenses according to the volume of work or the quantity and quality of products, which must be discussed and approved by the cooperative members. By means of classifying jobs and setting norms and standards for calculating labor, the cooperatives make comparisons and evaluations, in terms of a common unit of labor called a work day, in order to achieve unified distribution. With regard to agricultural production, in the absence of natural disasters the quality of labor manifested in products and results can only be determined after a long biological process. Therefore, the quality of labor in individual jobs and phases is evaluated by means of work norms and also by the ultimate production results. In accordance with that special characteristic, in the agricultural cooperatives there has taken form the system of contracting-out with two payments for labor: the first is called the principal compensation and is based on the quantity and quality of the contracted-out work; the second, called the additional compensation (or bonus), is based on the products that are turned over.

When contracting-out a number of related tasks that are tied in with ultimate rice output by worker groups or workers, each worker doing contracted-out work also has a two-part income: an income based on work days and an income from surpassing the contracted-out output norm. The cooperative exercises unified distribution within its sphere by means of income based on work days. The directive regarding "Improving contracting-out and expanding the contracting-out of output to worker groups and workers in the agricultural cooperatives" of the Secretariat of the Party Central Committee pointed out that "the principal means of increasing the income of cooperative members is by increasing output and the value of a work day,

but there is also a supplementary income from bonuses for surpassing the contracted-out norm." If that policy is carried out correctly it will encourage the cooperative members who accept contracted-out production and still assure unified distribution in the cooperative and that the cooperative members who accept contracted-out production are always tied in with their collective. Encouraging cooperative members who accept contracted-out production by setting norms that are too low or not paying attention to the over-all task of improving management in order to increase the value of a work day and the income of cooperative members will lead to the opposite result, and the cooperative members will only be concerned with doing a good job of the three contracted-out tasks and will ignore the common concerns.

The actualities of developing production and consolidating the cooperatives during the past several months have clearly indicated that boldly expanding the contracting-out of output to worker groups and workers serves to further the improvement of cooperative management. But the improvement of contracting-out must be placed within the over-all task of rectifying cooperative management, for only then can it be carried out well. We must determine rational scales and production directions; correctly implement the recently promulgated production incentive policies; have a corps of good cadres who have the confidence of the cooperative members and the capability to implement the three revolutions, of which the technological revolution is the key; effectively use, and build additional, material-technical bases; and create a production structure and a division of labor that is appropriate to the production direction that has been set forth, to continually rationalize production, and rapidly introduce technical advances into production, in order to develop production, attain a high and stable actual value of a work day. On that basis, we must improve contracting-out, as indicated by the directive of the Secretariat, and create a great moral force with which to stimulate the development of production, consolidate the production relationships, assure that obligations are met, and increase the quantity of agricultural commodities for society.

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AGRICULTURE

NEW PRODUCTION CONTRACTING-OUT METHOD DETAILED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 24 Feb 81 p 2

[Article: "Some Specific Stipulations Regarding the Method of Contracting Out Production to Worker Groups and Workers"]

[Text] In order to do a good job of "contracting out production" to worker groups and workers it is necessary to correctly observe the following stipulations regarding the contents and method of implementation:

1. Determining the output to be contracted out. The method of organizing the land to be contracted out to worker groups and workers. The contracting-out time and the contracting out order.

The output contracted-out to worker groups and workers is based on the yield norms assigned by the cooperatives to the production units and is specifically calculated and adjusted for each field, according to the fertility of the soil, the average yield in recent years, and the labor and fertilizer invested by the cooperative on that field, in order to assure that the output obtained from the fields in the production unit jibe with the output contracted out by the cooperative to the production unit.

Land contracted out for worker groups and workers to carry out production goes principally to workers in the cultivation sector. The cooperatives, on the basis of the labor capabilities, labor obligation, and amount of labor investment per cultivated area, calculate an appropriate amount of land to be contracted out. The village, cooperative, and production unit cadres are also assigned land on a contracted-out basis that corresponds to the stipulated number of work days they were required to directly participate in production in the past, and should not be assigned more, in order to assure that they will have sufficient time to do their work. With regard to the workers in the sectors and trades, if deemed necessary they may also be assigned additional land to work on a contracted-out basis, to a certain extent and on the basis of assuring the cooperatives' plans to develop the sectors and trades. The labor obligation must be taken into consideration when assigning contracted-out land to cooperative members, in order to force the people who are lazy toward working for the collective to have the obligation of doing contracted-out labor for the cooperative.

The land contracted-out to workers to produce on a contracted-out basis should not be dispersed in many fragments and places, or in many different areas, but it is

necessary to assure a rational ratio between rice and subsidiary food crops, and among land for the transplanting of early rice, late rice, and main-planting rice, so that labor can be distributed uniformly among the months in the production process. With regard to poor-quality, distant fields, we should rely principally on rationally adjusting the amount of land contracted out to worker groups and workers. To overcome the situation of fragmenting the land, according to the experiences of the cooperatives which have applied that method, the contracting-out land to the worker groups and workers may be done as follows:

Categorize the large and small fields so that they are suitable for two or three workers, in order to organize contracting-out that is appropriate to the number of workers in each family, and assure that one field is assigned to the workers of two families at most.

If necessary, it is possible to build small embankments to facilitate the retention of water and tending while not affecting area or the use of machinery to work the fields.

The cooperatives which have contracted out cultivation output to workers have gone all-out to contract out all kinds of land to the cooperative members in order to assure the uniform development of the various kinds of plants. The land contracted out to cooperative members should be stabilized for 2 or 3 years so that the cooperative members may be content and positively achieve intensive cultivation. The contracted-out yield norm is based on the cooperative's ability to invest fertilizer and technical means in each planning year in order to make rational adjustments. The cooperatives will recall only contracted-out land from workers who cannot assure the correct implementation of the production guidelines and crop structure for each production area, who do not turn over enough products to the cooperative, or who make the request themselves because of changed circumstances.

In order to assure that the contracting out of production to worker groups and workers is just and rational, it is necessary to carry it out in proper order: On the basis of the production guidelines that have been set, the cooperatives must arrange a rational crop structure for each production area. On that basis, the cooperatives democratically discuss with the cooperative members the various norms: output, work points, expenditures for necessary materials (seeds, fertilizer, insecticides, etc.) for each crop in each area and field, and the cooperatives must fully understand the specific labor capabilities for each season and year. Only after those norms have been set and the labor capabilities have been ascertained should land be contracted out to worker groups and workers.

In general, the land should be contracted out to worker groups and workers in a manner that combines a division of labor with encouraging the cooperative members to voluntarily accept the contracting out, but justness and rationality among the cooperative members in contracting out must be assured. Along with the contracting out, we must calculate the income and expenditures of the cooperatives for each year and each season, and clearly determine the number of work points to be divided and the planned monetary and in-kind value of a work day, in order to stimulate and increase the income of cooperative members by increasing output and increasing the value of a work day divided by the cooperative, as recommended by the directive of the Secretariat.

2. Do a good job of organizing cooperation and the division of labor in the cooperatives and production units.

The production process is a matter of organizing cooperation and a division of labor based on the cooperative's existing material-technical bases, the level of the instruments that must be used, and the economic-technical requirements regarding crops and livestock. The principle of the division of labor is that with regard to the major machinery and implements, the irrigation works which serve large areas, and the important technical materials which are intended to assure the correct observance of production rule and technical standards, the cooperatives and production units must organize labor to work collectively on the scale of the cooperative or production unit, while the manual labor tasks which require skilled, diligent labor should be assigned to workers and worker groups.

On the basis of that principle, the tasks in the production sectors may be assigned as follows:

In cultivation, in general the cooperatives must assure the production and supplying of sufficient rice, corn, and other seeds, and organize labor to perform the following tasks: plowing and harrowing by machinery; irrigation and drainage by systems which serve many production units and include the use of pumping machines; the production of green fertilizer and the management of the various kinds of chemical fertilizer, the organization of the prevention and elimination of insects and diseases; and the management of products in the cooperatives in order to achieve unified distribution. The production units must organize labor to collectively perform the following tasks: plowing and harrowing by water buffaloes and oxen, germinating and sowing rice seedlings, closely guiding the distribution and spreading of chemical fertilizer, organizing regular sprayings of insecticides, organizing the production and distribution of fertilizer in the unit, overseeing the spreading of fertilizer, and collecting the products that the workers must turn over. The workers and worker groups are contracted-out the following tasks: hoeing, sowing, transplanting, irrigation by dipping buckets and water wheels, spreading fertilizer, weeding, crop tending and harvesting, and turning over contracted-out products to the production unit. Therefore, the cooperatives must organize seed production units, irrigation teams, vegetation protection teams, electrical machinery teams, etc., and the production teams must organize groups which specialize in soil preparation, and groups which produce and process fertilizer, and tie in the responsibility of the people who do those jobs with the ultimate results of production, in order to assure close cooperation in production and create favorable conditions for the cooperative members to enthusiastically accept contracted-out production.

In stock raising and the trades, the division of labor between the cooperatives and production units and the workers must be determined specifically on the basis of cooperation and division of labor within the cultivation sector. In stock raising, the cooperative must control the breeding stock and feed, and must prevent and eliminate diseases. With regard to the trades, the cooperatives must control the raw materials and fuel, market products, etc., in order to assure the expansion of the contracting-out of output to worker groups and workers.

On the basis, the cooperatives must clearly determine the responsibilities of the board of directors, the production unit, and the workers accepting the contracting out of output in the production process, and must draft specific bylaws regarding

all aspects. With regard to the tasks which can be performed better by collective labor organized by the cooperatives or the production units, but have not yet been so performed, must be carried out by all means. We must guard against and struggle to overcome the tendency to emphasize contracting-out many tasks to workers and reluctance to organize collective labor to do the necessary tasks. It must be affirmed that the individual labor of cooperative members can only manifest its good effect in the contracting out of production on the basis of assuring the good performance of the work of the cooperatives and production units. That manifests the superiority of cooperation and division of labor in the cooperatives.

3. The good use of the existing material-technical bases and increasing the number of cooperative material-technical bases, in order to limit difficulties in production to the minimum.

The improvement of contracting-out and the expansion of "the contracting out of output" to worker groups and workers are intended to closely combine labor with the material-technical bases which affect land, crops, and livestock, in order to attain high economic effectiveness in production. Therefore, it is necessary to do a good job of using the existing material-technical bases in order to serve production. We must resolutely oppose all instances of allowing the damage or waste of the material-technical bases of the cooperatives in "contracting out output" to worker groups and workers. Furthermore, we must increase the number of new material-technical bases in order to do a better job of serving production in the cooperatives. The difficulties of many cooperatives at present is that the land has not been improved, waterlogging and drought still threaten, there is a shortage of draft power and implements, breeding stock quality is not assured, there is little manure but little attention is paid to developing green fertilizer, etc. Those difficulties will cause the contracting-out of output to be restricted in certain respects. Therefore, it is necessary to, depending on the specific situation of each cooperative, go all-out to increase the necessary material-technical bases. First of all, it is necessary to promote irrigation work, combined with the improvement of fields, increase draft power and implements, and have a good breeding stock structure and in order to assure that the cooperative can effectively affect the important aspects of production. The more the material-technical bases are strengthened, the more the difficulties in production will be limited, and the more the positive role of the new contracting-out method can be developed. Thoughts that with the contracting-out of output to worker groups and workers it will not be necessary to build additional material-technical bases are completely inaccurate. But relying on the existing material-technical bases, and refusing to improve contracting out in order to develop the existing capabilities to the highest degree is also inappropriate. The greater the material-technical bases of the cooperatives and the better the contracting out, the greater the production results.

4. The management and distribution of fertilizer within the production units.

The contracting out of output to worker groups and workers is stimulating the development of livestock raising by the families of cooperative members, but in the immediate future we cannot overcome the fertilizer shortage of some workers who raise few livestock. Therefore, the production units must tightly manage the fertilizer supply in order to rationally distribute it from workers with surpluses to workers with shortages in the contracting out of output to worker groups and workers.

In order to assure that the production units are able to actively control the fertilizer supply, according to the experiences of the cooperatives which have applied that method, it is necessary to do a good job of resolving some problems:

The fertilizer obligation of each worker is compared to the level of fertilizer used on the contracted-out acreage. If there is a surplus, the cooperative will purchase it at a price that is the same throughout the cooperative. That surplus fertilizer will be collected in two phases: once at the beginning of the season (about 60 percent of the total) for the initial fertilizing, and once in the middle of the season (40 percent of the total) for the supplementary fertilizing and booting fertilizing. If, after selling the obligatory amounts of fertilizer to the cooperative, a family can produce additional fertilizer it will be able to use it freely, and if the family wants to sell it to the cooperative, the cooperative will buy it at prices which are higher than the obligatory price and are agreed to by the cooperative and the people with fertilizer to sell.

The production units must organize a fertilizer-production group to produce the various kinds of green fertilizer on which it is possible to do so, grow azolla seedstock, and purchase surplus manure from the cooperative members for composting and processing, in order to assure that the production unit has sufficient fertilizer for each season and each year.

Each production unit must assign an assistant leader to be in charge of fertilizer to manage the fertilizer supplied by the cooperative, keep abreast of the fertilizer supply of the families and the status of the workers' fertilizer obligations of the workers, guide the groups in producing fertilizer for the unit, and see to it that the cooperative member families spread fertilizer according to plan.

5. Carrying out the method of contracting out to workers who are members of the families of war dead, wounded soldiers, and troops, and the headless families in the cooperative.

The policy of the cooperatives toward the families of war dead, wounded soldiers, and troops, headless families which lack workers, etc., was stipulated in circular 08/TT/NN, dated 5 May 1980, of the Ministry of Agriculture, which guided the distribution of income in the agricultural cooperatives and production collective. The new contracting-out method, must include the flexible and specific implementation of those stipulations.

The cooperatives give priority to the families of war dead, wounded soldiers, and troops in contracting-out, such as by assigning them near-by fields and giving them the necessary assistance so that they can attain and surpass the contracted-out norms. As regards the families which are headless and lack workers and are unable to work land on a contracted-out basis, the cooperative contracts out other work to them, such as livestock raising, basketweaving, etc., which are appropriate to the labor capabilities of each family. If the people capable of working in such families have fulfilled their labor obligations toward the cooperative but still lack enough to eat, the cooperative sells them grain, and if they experience difficulties regarding living conditions the cooperative uses the social fund to assist them.

Able-bodied members of families of war dead, wounded soldiers, and troops are obliged to work for the cooperative and cannot make the excuse of being members of "priority" or "headless" families and refuse to work or be subjected to the cooperative's labor management.

6. Organizing harvesting and correctly carrying out rewards and punishments in contracting out rice output.

The organization of harvesting must be appropriate to the existing material-technical bases of the cooperatives. Cooperatives with granaries, drying patios, and rice threshing machines must organize concentrated harvesting, but it is necessary to calculate the output of individual worker groups or workers in order to facilitate the calculation of the contracted-out output. Cooperatives which do not have granaries, drying patios, and rice threshing machines may temporarily allow cooperative members to take the harvested rice home and then turn over products according to the norm contracted out to the unit. The cooperatives and production units must have plans to monitor the actual production results, and there must be specific specific bylaws to assure the turning over of the correct amount of products, according to the contracted-out norm (including both principal products and secondary products) in order to carry out common distribution in the cooperative. At the same time, the cooperative must create the necessary conditions for advancing to concentrated harvesting.

Rewards and punishment must be rational and in accordance with the principle of "balancing rewards and punishment" in order to develop the role of the new contracting-out method. To be in accordance with that principle, and appropriate to the psychology of the cooperative members, the methods of administering rewards and punishment are as follows.

a. With regard to the cooperatives which apply the contracting out of tasks, the rewarding and punishing of cadres and cooperative members are carried out in accordance with Circular Circular 08 TT/NN, dated 5 May 1980, of the Ministry of Agriculture. The penalty for failure to attain output can amount to a maximum of 80 percent of the shortfall. Penalization by reducing in-kind distribution or distributed items calculated in terms of money according to the local market value is determined by cooperative discussions.

b. With regard to cooperatives which use the form of contracting out output to worker groups and workers:

a. With regard to cooperative members who accept contracting-out, those surpassing the contracted-out output are rewarded 80 to 100 percent of the excess amount in kind, as determined by discussions in each cooperative. Those who fall short of the contracted-out output are not penalized for shortfalls due to objective factors, but are penalized 100 percent of the shortfall that is their fault. The penalty is in money, at local market prices or is deducted from the grain distributed by the cooperative. Cooperative members who conceal output or are unwilling to turn over the full amount to the cooperative and are caught will not only be penalized 100 percent of the deficit but will suffer the confiscation of the concealed output and may be forbidden to continue to participate in the contracting out.

Unit leaders and assistant leaders, and workers who participated in such joint undertakings as soil preparation, fertiliser production, and irrigation are also considered for rewards and punishments. Specifically:

In the places which award 100 percent of the excess output to contracting-out workers, if a unit fulfills its plan and assures that the contracting-out workers turn over all of their output to the unit and that the unit turns over all of it to the cooperative, a maximum of 5 percent of the output to reward the production unit cadres and the workers participating in the unit's production. Some 20 to 30 percent of that grain will be set aside for unit cadres, while the rest is awarded on the basis of the work days contributed to the common work for the unit or the cooperative.

As regards the penalization of production unit cadres depending on the extent of the plan shortfall, for every 1 percent shortfall of the output plan, the production unit cadres must give up 1 percent of their work point allowances, but the maximum penalty cannot exceed 30 percent of the cadre's work point allowance.

The rewarding and punishment of cooperative cadres continue to be based on Circular No 08 TT/NH, dated 5 May 1980, of the Ministry of Agriculture, but some of the reward may be in grain.

In order to assure that rewards and punishments are just and rational, the cooperatives must review the situation before the harvest. If it is necessary to adjust the contracted-out norm, it should be adjusted in advance so that the cooperative members can be at ease during the harvest. The adjustment of contracting-out plans must be done very precisely, and may be adjusted only in the event that there is a serious natural calamity with which the cooperative cannot cope, or the cooperative cannot assure the supplying of materials according to plan, and must be agreed to by the district agricultural committee.

7. The implementation of the "contracting out of output" form regarding the various kinds of crops and livestock.

The "contracting out of output" form may be applied to all kinds of crops. On the basis of the contracting-out objectives and principles, it must be applied in a manner appropriate to the economic-technical requirements and growth periods of each type of crop. There are three matters which should receive attention:

1. It is necessary to distinguish between the quickly maturing crops and the slowly maturing crops, in order to organize rational contracting out of output. With regard to such long-range crops as lacquer trees, tea, etc., if they have just been planted they may be divided into two phases -- planting and tending, and harvesting -- but must be tied in with output at harvest time. All-out efforts must be made to unify the contracting out of planting, tending, and harvesting to a worker group or worker, so that they can have a strong sense of responsibility regarding the quality of their work, in order to assure that the harvest output increases. With regard to crops that have already been harvested, there must be correct determination of quality, including the number of plants per .1 mau, the potential yield of each crop, the time involved in harvesting, etc., in order to accurately contract out output. It is necessary to combine harvesting, improvement, and continued tending, to assure the prolongation of the harvesting time of crops.

It is necessary to correctly determine the tasks which must be performed by collective labor on the scale of the cooperative or production unit, and those that may be contracted out to workers in order to be appropriate to each crop. The three tasks -- planting, crop tending, and harvesting -- contracted out to workers apply generally to all crops, but they may differ with regard to individual crops. For example, the cooperative must control the rice seedstock, but white potato, garlic, and other seedstock should be selected and kept by the workers. Or as regards the irrigation of rice, the cooperative and the production unit must provide unified guidance, but the irrigation of subsidiary food crops is best done by cooperative members, etc. Furthermore, according to the specific situation of each crop, it is possible to contract out to worker groups or workers selected by the cooperatives.

We must rationally resolve the matter of rewards and punishments regarding each crop. There must be a greater degree of encouragement regarding the important crops and the crops many aspects of which are the responsibility of cooperative members in the production process, than with regard to other crops. Furthermore, it is necessary to rationally resolve the relationship between monetary rewards and in-kind rewards for each crop, for only then can we stimulate production in the cooperative. With regard to crops managed by the state (tea, lacquer trees, tobacco, etc.), the increased output must be calculated in terms of the negotiated price at which it is sold to the state, in order to reward the cooperative members, and must be sold, as a reward, a corresponding ratio of grain and goods if the state helps them by selling grain or concludes contracts for the exchange of goods.

In livestock raising it is also necessary to expand the form of "contracting out output," especially with regard to hogs. In "contracting out output" in hog raising, the cooperatives must pay attention to the good resolution of the breeding stock, feed, and disease prevention and elimination aspects. "Contracting out output" in hog raising both follows the form of contracting out work to cooperative members and is carried out in the cooperative's concentrated livestock-raising pens.

In order to assure the "contracting out of output" in hog raising, attention must be paid to the following:

The cooperatives must go all-out to do a good job of organizing the concentrated raising of breeding sows in order to have breeding stock to contract-out to cooperative members. In the event that the cooperative cannot raise livestock in a concentrated manner it can contract-out the raising of breeding sows for the cooperative to workers who are skilled at livestock raising.

The cooperatives must assure the production of increasingly larger quantities of feed on the 10 to 15 percent of the land set aside for stock raising. They may organize concentrated feed-production units to produce feed on the 10-to-15 percent land, but they may also utilize the form of "contracting out output" to worker groups and workers, as with regard to the production of the vegetable and subsidiary food crops in the cooperative, but the cooperative must control those products to process feed to serve stock raising. In the event that the cooperative cannot organize the processing of feed, it can contract out the food that has been produced to the cooperative members who are raising livestock.

It is forbidden to contract out hog raising to cooperative members in the "exchange rice for meat" or "exchange land for meat" manner, with no norms or direction, which in fact do not increase the number of hogs or the amount of meat. In contracting out hog raising to cooperative members, it is essential that the number of hogs or the amount of meat be increased, and the amount of fertilizer in the cooperative (the Ministry of Agriculture will issue a circular giving more specific guidance regarding that matter).

Organising Implementation Guidance

Improving contracting-out and expanding the form of contracting out products to worker groups and workers is a very great, very new matter and is an urgent demand of the masses. The good performance of that task will create a new transformation in agricultural production, contribute to consolidating the new production relationships in the rural areas, and contribute new capabilities for the fulfillment of the third 5-year plan (1981-1985). Therefore, it is necessary to regard that as a central task at the present time, in order to concentrate the guidance of the provincial and municipal people's committees and of the agricultural sector, from the central level to the local level, to enable all cadres, party members, and cooperative members to thoroughly understand and correctly implement the directive of the Secretariat.

In order to assure good guidance of the contracting-out task, it is necessary to do a good job of the following tasks.

1. The improvement of contracting-out and expanding the form of "contracting-out output" to worker groups and workers are related to many aspects of management in the cooperatives. Therefore, we must, on the basis of the objectives and principles of contracting-out, appropriately strengthen the various aspects of cooperative management. It is especially necessary to do a good job of planning and determining production directions, creating crop structures, improving planning, perfecting the economic-technical norms, and training cadres for the cooperatives, and much attention must be paid to consolidating the weak cooperatives in order to create good conditions for the good implementation of contracting-out.

The contracting-out of output in the cultivation sector must be expanded to livestock raising and the other sectors and trades in the cooperatives. At the same time, studies must be carried out in order to have appropriate management measures, to relate the responsibilities of the district's materials supply and irrigation organs, and tractor stations, with the results of production of the cooperatives, along the lines of "contracting-out output."

2. It is necessary to closely guide the cooperatives in improving contracting-out and expanding the "contracting-out of output" to worker groups and workers. In the cooperatives which expand the form of "contracting-out output," it is essential that cadres be trained regarding the objectives, principles, and contents of contracting-out, and know how to specifically implement it. In the course of their work, the provinces and districts must continually monitor the situation in order to correct any distortions, and after the 1981 5th month-spring season must make a preliminary recapitulation in order to gain experience to further supplement and perfect that task, in order to expand it during the 1981 10th month season. The

Central Agricultural Cooperative Management Department must rapidly organize training for provincial and municipal cadres regarding the contents, and method of carrying out, the form of contracting-out output.

3. Due to the requirements of expanding the "contracting-out output" method, we must uncover and study the new problems that arise in order to promptly resolve them for the base level. First of all, the sectors in the Ministry of Agriculture must work with the localities in reviewing the technical rules and policies of the cooperatives, and the problems regarding organization, management, and the supplying of materials, in order to correct and supplement the inappropriate points and do a better job of serving the cooperatives' contracting out, while making recommendations regarding the problems related to other sectors, in order to work together to resolve them and further the contracting out of output in the cooperatives.

4. We must consolidate and perfect the system of organizational responsibility and agricultural cooperative management from the central level down to the provincial and district levels in order to, along with the cooperative management boards, form a system extending from the central level to the base level. In the immediate future, it is necessary to strengthen the agricultural cooperative management departments at the central, provincial, and municipal levels, so that they may have enough cadres to inspect and monitor the improvement of contracting out in the cooperatives. The Central Agricultural Cooperative Management Department must quickly draft a plan for the organization of a cooperative management system in order to have unified guidance.

5. The implementation of the new contracting-out method is intended to contribute to further perfect the paying of compensation according to labor. Therefore, in addition to improving the contracting-out system in the cooperatives it is necessary to do a good job of implementing decision No 400/CP, dated 5 November 1979, of the Council of Ministers regarding the policy of distributing income within the cooperatives and agricultural production collectives, as well as Circular No 08 TT/NN, dated 5 May 1980, of the Ministry of Agriculture, which provides guidance regarding that matter.

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AGRICULTURE

REPORT ON FIFTH-MONTH, SPRING CROP CULTIVATION

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 20 Feb 81 p 1

[Text] VNA--For the fifth-month and spring agricultural season this year, Hanoi, Haiphong, Thai Binh, Hai Hung, Ha Nam Ninh, Ha Son Binh, Ha Bac, Vinh Phu and Thanh Hoa are 9 provinces and cities in North Vietnam which have planned to perform sowing and transplanting on 767,000 hectares. Taking advantage of favorable weather conditions and a rather adequate electricity supply, the various localities are concentrating efforts on drawing water into fields to crumble the clods of dry-plowed earth prior to sowing and transplanting the spring rice crop.

As of 15 February, 9 provinces have drawn enough water into 575,639 hectares--that is, 75 percent of the plan norm--before carrying out sowing and transplanting. More than 80 percent of the area irrigated by means of electric pumps has received water.

Haiphong and Ha Nam Ninh have brought enough water into 90 percent of the sowing and transplanting area by wisely taking advantage of tidal peaks to obtain water and by soundly managing and distributing water sources. Ha Bac, Hai Hung, Vinh Phu and Thanh Hoa have rationally used and distributed electric power to pump stations to enable them to operate and irrigate fields to boost the fifth-month riceplants' growth and also to prepare for the sowing and transplanting of the spring rice.

Almost all agricultural cooperatives in Haiphong have applied the system of product contract with labor groups and laborers for the cultivation of rice, subsidiary food and industrial crops. Certain positive factors in cooperatives have been brought into play, the ricefields transformed and the contingent of experienced cadres stabilize to guide production and direct the labor force.

While bringing the product contract system into play during the current fifth-month and spring season, agricultural cooperatives have taken the initiative in making preparations to plow the soil on schedule and to keep enough water in the fields to crumble clods of dry-plowed earth at an early time throughout the cultivated area. As a result, the tasks of preparing the soil, manufacturing fertilizers and sowing and transplanting rice have been carried out twice and even three times as quickly as during the same period last year. Experiences have also been drawn and applied to other farming works such as seed and seedling preparations, insect and disease control and fertilization. Do Son District has mobilized 30,000 tons of

stable manure and nearly 200 tons of nitrate fertilizer to carry out the first fertilization phase with the result that each hectare has received nearly 50 quintals of stable manure and 29 kgs of nitrate fertilizer on the average.

The city [of Haiphong] has carried out transplanting on 95 percent of the area reserved for the fifth-month and spring rice crop. Two-thirds of the total number of cooperatives have completed transplanting by 15 February and some of them have overfulfilled the plan norm. Do Son, An Hai and Tien Lang Districts have performed transplanting on 97 or 98 percent of the arable area.

Cooperatives have shifted their focus on the care for and fertilization of the fifth-month and spring rice on schedule and according to technical regulations. After completing sowing and transplanting on the planned area, many cooperatives have fully used seed-sowing fields and low-level ones by lending them to their members to grow an additional rice crop above and beyond the plan norms.

As of 10 February, Quang Nam-Danang Province has planted winter-spring vegetables and subsidiary food and industrial crops on 31,000 hectares including 14,500 hectares of sweet potato and 9,500 hectares of cassava. Thang Binh District has grown 5,500 hectares of sweet potato--500 hectares up over the plan norm. Hoa Vang District has grown 4,300 hectares of cassava and 2,300 hectares of greens, legumes and industrial crops.

The entire province has cultivated 3,200 hectares of peanuts, 800 hectares of legumes and 1,500 hectares of greens.

Districts in the rice growing area have sent the labor force to open new lands in the mountainous regions and midlands to plant subsidiary food and industrial crops in a bid to achieve 24,000 hectares of cassava and 18,000 hectares of sweet potato for the spring agricultural season.

Cooperatives in Binh Tri Thien Province have fulfilled 90.6 percent of the plan norm for the fifth-month and spring rice area. Between 100 and 120 percent of the planned area has been fulfilled by Huong Hoa District, Dong Ha Town and Hue City. The sowing and transplanting plan norms have also been fulfilled by state farms. Though a large portion of their arable area has been waterlogged, the principal rice-growing districts of Trieu Hai, Huong Dien and Huong Phu have carried out sowing and transplanting on 94 to 97.3 percent of the planned area.

Binh Tri Thien has directed transplanting on most of the planned area prior to the Tet holidays. Short-term rice varieties have been sown and transplanted during the most favorable period of the cultivation season. Following the application of the system of product contract with labor groups and laborers, peasants have begun to pay attention to applying intensive cultivation measures. Cooperatives have applied an average of 3 tons of fertilizer to each rice-cultivated hectare and have carried out the first weeding stage on 24,640 hectares of early rice.

The various levels and sectors are concentrating guidance on the completion of transplanting throughout the planned area and are organizing preventive measures against drought, harmful insects and diseases to take good care of riceplants.

Agricultural cooperatives in Thanh Hoa Province have transplanted the fifth-month and spring riceplants on 65.7 percent of the planned area. The Thuong Xuan mountainous district and Tinh Gia District have exceeded the transplanting area for the entire season by 3 to 4 percent. In particular, Tinh Gia District has cultivated more than 2,600 hectares of spring sweet potato which represents 80 percent of the plan norm and which ranks it first among all districts in the province.

The important rice-growing districts of Trieu Son, Nong Cong and Quang Xuong have applied the new contract system, carried out transplanting on 76 to 80 percent of the area slated for the entire season and are trying to complete transplanting by the end of February 1981.

The various levels, sectors and cooperatives are concentrating on overcoming a seedling shortage and saving more than 15,000 hectares of ricefield from drought. Many cooperatives have mobilized seeds belonging to the collective and individual households in order to carry out an additional sowing of seeds on hard soil. The Plant Seeds Corporation of Thanh Hoa has supplied 315 tons more of late spring rice seeds to cooperatives. Nong Cong, Trung Son, Quang Xuong and Hau Loc Districts have promptly managed and regulated the seed surplus in each cooperative and instructed cooperative members to carry out dense transplanting rationally.

Thanh Hoa has reserved enough power supply for the operation of water pumps and distributed 150 tons of oil to districts which have large arable areas lying outside the farmland water conservancy network.

The farmland water conservancy complex in the Chu River area and the area south of the Ma River has commissioned a mobile electric pump station to help areas seriously affected by drought.

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HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

SOVIET-AIDED DONG HOI POWER PLANT BEGINS OPERATIONS

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 24 Feb 81 p2

[Article by "P.V.": "Dong Hoi Power Plant Begins Production"]

[Text] The power plant in the city of Dong Hoi, Binh Tri Thien Province, was brought into production on the opening day of the 26th Congress of the glorious Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

The plant is the first large diesel installation in our country built with the assistance of the Soviet Union. It has a surface area of nearly 7,000 square feet (not counting the housing area for the cadres, workers, and civil servants), and has four machinery units with a total capacity of 14,000 kilowatts and a maximum electricity output of 63 million kilowatt-hours per year. The project items include the main building, the machinery building, a water cooling tower, a fuel tank area, a 35-kilovolt transformer station, an operations building, etc.

According to the division of labor, the Ministry of Electric Power of the Soviet Union was responsible for designing the principal project items within the fence; the plant designed the project items serving production on the outside; the Industrial Service designed the housing area for cadres, workers, and civil servants; the Zone 1 Design Section of the Industrial Corporation worked on site A, managed capital and designing, and supervised construction; and Construction Installation Enterprise No 7 of Construction Corporation No 1 was directly responsible for constructing the entire project.

The process of constructing the plant was a process of close cooperation between the Soviet technicians and the Vietnamese cadres and workers, who worked together in overcoming one difficulty after another. It was also a process of concern and care on the part of the party organization and people of Dong Hoi City and socialist cooperation among the units. Materials and equipment were shipped from the Soviet Union to the port of Haiphong, stored, and with some difficulty transported from the port to the plant site. If the Ministry of National Defense had not provided transportation facilities, it would have been difficult to transport the four diesel engines, each of which weighed 45 tons, more than 600 kilometers by road from Haiphong to Dong Hoi, so that they could be installed.

There was a shortage of domestic materials and some of the on-the-spot construction materials could not be supplied fast enough to keep up with the construction rate. In many instances the Soviet technicians worked with the Vietnamese cadres and

workers to correct blueprints and find replacement materials and raw materials, in order to accelerate the construction rate while assuring the project's quality and economizing on fuel and materials. Comrade Nikolai, head of the Soviet technician, worked day and night. Comrade Vasiliev Leonid, an experienced diesel engine mechanic, helped the Vietnamese cadres and workers overcome many problems in installing the machinery. When returning from home leave he brought back a number of machinery parts weighing nearly 30 kilograms to avoid wasting time shipping them. Comrade L.K. Trivossi, an electrical technician, was responsible for supervising the design of the plant. When difficulties were encountered regarding materials and fuel, he worked with the Vietnamese cadres and workers in seeking ways to promptly overcome them. Comrade U.A. Procochev, a diesel theory specialist, often worked through his lunch time to show the workers how to operate the machinery.

Construction-Installation Enterprise No 7, which had always specialized in installing small diesel engines, for the first time undertook the construction of a large diesel installation. With the concern and care of the party organization and people of Dong Hoi City and the all-out assistance of Soviet technicians, and with the cooperation and aid of unit Q71, the Cuba-Vietnam Friendship Hospital construction site in Dong Hoi, and the Yen Vien Metal Fabrication Enterprise in Hanoi, the enterprise is endeavoring to do a good job of fulfilling the missions assigned to it. In the course of constructing the Dong Hoi Power Plant, Construction-Installation Enterprise No 7 has further matured with regard to its managerial and construction capabilities. It has successfully molded three-holed panels of high quality, produced acid-resistant concrete and bricks, built its own gantry cranes, and safely and accurately installed large machines weighing more than 40 tons despite the lack of a crane.

With the operation of the Dong Hoi Power Plant, Binh Tri Thien has a new source of electricity with which to promote production and strengthen national defense and security.

Uniting in struggle and working creatively so that the plant could be inaugurated on 23 February 1961 were practical acts on the part of the Soviet technicians and the Vietnamese cadres and workers to celebrate the 26th Congress of the glorious Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

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HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

HON GAI COAL CORPORATION STRIVES TO INCREASE OUTPUT

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 12 Mar 81 p 2

[Article by Ngoc Van: "Striving to Increase Coal Output"]

[Text] By means of the production results during two quarters of implementing the system of paying salaries according to ultimate output, the Hon Gai Coal Corporation can answer the question posed for the coal mining sector: Are there capabilities for increasing coal output on the basis of the existing labor, materials, and technical conditions?

During the fourth quarter of 1980, the coal production rate of the mines was three to seven percent greater than during other quarters with similar weather conditions. During the last 3 months of the year the Deo Nai mine, which was a trial location for the method of assigning salary funds to be managed by the enterprise, mined a quantity of coal equal to nearly half the total output for the year. During the first months of this year that production rate has been maintained and is tending to stabilize on a long-range basis. The reason for that is that the conditions and factors which created that production rate were not due to outside conditions, such as additional investment or temporary incentive measures. The principal reason is that each mine, with its existing capabilities, improved its own working conditions. That is the method of the in-depth development of existing investment sources.

First of all, the labor source. The experiences over a course of many years are that during the last 3 months of a year the Hon Gai Coal Corporation must usually attain 30 percent of the plan norm regarding clean coal. To attain such output, it is estimated that 2,000 additional workers must be added to the principal production element. During the fourth quarter of 1980, due to the expansion of the form of piecework and paying salaries according to final output, the bases redeployed their labor and assigned them jobs, and were more concerned with the quality of labor than quantity. The result was that the corporation did not have to add 2,000 workers, as expected. Many enterprises even reduced the number of workers in the principal production element and assigned them other work.

Second, material expenditures were reduced and the effectiveness of equipment use was increased. That is a great, rich capability which can be continually exploited. In production by means of modern, sophisticated facilities the role of man in the production process is even more important. A bulldozer or truck valued at millions or hundreds of thousands of dong has productivity equal to a thousand manual workers. But if the people operating those machines go into the jungle and sleep

during all three shifts, then such a machine has productivity equal to a thousand people who are taking time off from work. On the other hand, only if workers increase their sense of responsibility and tie in individual economic benefit with that of the collective can each operation cost thousands of dong less. The method of organizing truck teams of the Cam Pha Transportation Enterprise, or the form of tying in the drilling machine, steamshovels, and earth-and-rock removal truck units with the ultimate output of the Ha Tu mine, etc., increased the effectiveness of equipment utilization, and enabled the workers to have a proper sense of responsibility, and be concerned with properly managing and using the equipment assigned them. The workers regard the vehicles and machines as belonging to them and therefore attain high productivity and high salaries. During the dry season the transportation productivity of the Ben-La team of the Ha Tu mine exceeded the norm by nearly 40 percent. Three hundred trucks of the Cam Pha Transportation Enterprise exceeded the plan norm by 19 percent. In some teams, the types of vehicles, number of trips, and number of tons/kilometers exceeded the quarterly norm by half. If the corporation had added hundreds of vehicles and machines it could not have attained such results, and would have had to add workers to operate and repair them.

Third, the system of salaries based on final output stimulated a change in the production organization and management structure of the enterprises of the Hon Cai Coal Corporation. Within a short period of time a large combined mining team with more than 40,000 workers and thousands of pieces of many different kinds of modern equipment changed over from the administrative-supply management mode to a system of management based on complete economic accounting, the calculation of economic effectiveness, and increasing the initiative and creativity of the production and commercial units. That method brought about results equivalent to millions of tons of coal.

In the sphere of production management there are still capabilities which have not been fully exploited. If the imbalances among coal mining, coal transportation, screening and washing, and delivering coal to the port are overcome, output will be even greater and economic effectiveness will be even greater. At the end of 1980, the corporation had nearly a million tons of recently mined coal piled up at the mines or at the tupples, which amounted to nearly one-fifth of the annual output.

At present, the mines are somewhat confused in implementing decision No 25-CP of the Council of Ministers. Good results have been attained in improving planning and management, and in trying out the method of paying salaries according to the volume of production or commerce. The corporation has decided to expand the method of assigning salary funds to all enterprises during the second quarter of this year. The enterprises have found that their own plans are difficult to fulfill. There is the opinion that if the state cannot supply sufficient materials for the coal mining sector -- POL, vehicles, and machinery -- the bases cannot provide them for themselves. Therefore, they have no plans to provide them. A number of mines have the tendency to deploy labor and equipment on the main production line in any way that would fulfill or slightly exceed the plan assigned by the state, in balance with the materials supplied. Any materials left over are concentrated on secondary production. Such bases believe that if their main output increases five to seven percent, even if the salary fund increases in accordance with an incentive ratio, with regard to the enterprise the increase would not equal one percent of the secondary production. As mentioned above, the capability to exploit in depth

the labor, equipment, and technical materials capability is still very great. Furthermore, the level of the state output plan for this year is low and all bases are capable of fulfilling it. The labor, equipment, and materials that are saved are used for secondary production. The value of secondary output increases steadily, while the primary output doesn't increase very much. Furthermore, most of the mine's secondary output is clean coal, and no distinction can be made between the coal mined in accordance with the assigned state plan and coal derived from secondary production. It is only possible to make a distinction when the coal is distributed and circulated.

Here there are many problems that must be resolved. First of all, that managerial deficiency cannot be said to entirely be the responsibility of the enterprise or corporation. It is also due to many objective factors and to many backward stipulations which have not been promptly amended and adjusted. For example, the price of coal has been too low over a long period of time, which has caused the salary component of the production cost (only a little more than 10 percent) to also be low. Even if the workers double their productivity their salaries are still insufficient to assure the reproduction of labor, while market prices are undergoing any fluctuations. In some cases the mine has taken coal to exchange for other goods, but people complained, "A ton of coal isn't worth a chicken" (because the coal is calculated in guidance prices and chickens are calculated in negotiated prices). The state commercial sector cannot meet the needs of goods exchanges between the mining area and the rest of society, which causes an imbalance between goods and money in the industrial zones. Many sectors are responsible for working with the localities and enterprises to study and promptly resolve that problem in order to be appropriate to the actual situation. The existing capabilities regarding labor, equipment, and materials may be further exploited. The enterprises' own plans cannot be lacking under the present production conditions. They will contribute decisively to fulfilling the 1981 coal output plan norm of the Hon Gai Coal Corporation.

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POPULATION, CUSTOMS AND CULTURE

RELOCATION EXPERIENCE IN HAI HUNG REPORTED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 23 Jan 81 p 1

[VNA News Release: "Hai Hung Province: 4,748 Families Sent To Build New Economic Zones; 23,000 Hectares of Land Turned Productive"]

[Excerpt] In the last 4 years, Hai Hung Province had 4,748 families consisting of 60,750 laborers and 74,600 people being sent away to build the new economic zones in Gia Lai-Kontum, Dong Nai, Long An, Son La and Quang Ninh Provinces. Among those people there were 820 party members, 48 members of district VCP standing committees, 200 members of village party chapter committees, 126 engineers, midlevel technical cadres, doctors and physicians, and 102 midlevel economic management cadres.

Before relocating the people, Hai Hung Province had sent 30 technical cadres to survey and to make plans for the new economic zones. Production installations had sent thousands of young healthy laborers there to build houses, public health stations, schools, roads, etc. to create favorable conditions for the families upon their arrival to quickly stabilize their living and to develop production.

Excluding the laborers and families working jointly with the state-operated units and cooperatives from other provinces, the remaining manpower succeeded in building 9 state farms and forests and 11 agricultural cooperatives in the new economic zones. These production installations then cleared more than 25,000 hectares of new land and turned 23,000 hectares productive, including 5,600 hectares of industrial plants (coffee, rubber, tea, pineapple, etc.) and 16,500 hectares of grain and subsidiary food crops.

In 1980, the crops and plants in many new economic zones were growing nicely and offered good harvest. The state farms and cooperatives alone harvested tens of thousands of tons of grain. If the secondary economic activities were included, many families in Thang Dung, Thang Quynh, Thang Vien and Thang Hong Cooperatives (in Gia Lai-Kontum Province) obtained more than 2 tons of grain per year. With good crops, many cooperatives and families sold the state hundreds of tons of grain at agreed prices.

CHRONOLOGY

HANOI CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS FOR 15 NOVEMBER-15 DECEMBER 1980

Hanoi VIETNAM COURIER in English Jan 81 p 32

[Text]

. November

15. Deputy Prime Minister Vo Nguyen Giap concludes his official visit to Madagascar begun on 12 November. During the visit the two sides signed an agreement on economic and technological cooperation. A joint-communiqué was published.

19. Vo Nguyen Giap concludes his official visit to Mozambique begun on 15 November. A joint-communiqué was published.

20. Opening in Hanoi of the 4th National Congress of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union. (See Le Duan's Speech in *Vietnam Courier* No. 12-1980).

- Hanoi: Signing of documents on the Swedish Government's 6 million kroner aid to Vietnamese flood victims and to pursue the trial operation of the Bai Bang Paper Mill. Sweden will also help Vietnam to build two hospitals, one for the children of Hanoi and the other for coal miners of Uong Bi.

21. The Vietnamese Ministry of Foreign Affairs sends a message protesting against Chinese incursions inside Vietnamese territory.

- The Vietnamese Ministry of Foreign Affairs issues a statement rejecting the UN resolution on Afghanistan. On 19 November, Ambassador Ha Van Lau delivered a speech at the UN General Assembly condemning the imperialists' and Beijing authorities' approach to this problem.

22. A delegation of the Ministry of Education and Culture of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan visits Vietnam to study Vietnam's experiences in eliminating illiteracy and developing complementary education.

25. Berlin: Signing of an agreement on cooperation in posts and tele-communications between the GDR and Vietnam.

- Budapest: Signing of two agreements on Hungarian aid to Vietnam providing interest-free loans to finance imports of goods and economic development in the period 1981-1985. At the same time, a trade agreement and an agreement on goods exchanges for 1981-1985 were signed.

26. Vice Foreign Minister Dinh Nho Liem, special envoy of Acting-President Nguyen Huu Tho, paid an official visit to Sri Lanka from 23 to 26 November.

28. On the occasion of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian people, 29 November 1980, Prime Minister Pham Van Dong sends a message to the UN Secretary-General expressing resolute support to the just struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of the P.L.O.

29. A Party and Government delegation led by Deputy Prime Minister Le Thanh Nghi, Political Bureau member of the Communist Party of Vietnam, leaves Vietnam for Laos to attend the 5th Lao National Day celebrations.

30. Vice-Foreign Minister Dinh Nho Liem, special envoy of Acting-President Nguyen Huu Tho, paid an official visit to Burma from 27 to 30 November.

December

1. Vo Nguyen Giap concludes his official visit to Ethiopia begun on 29 November. During the visit he was presented with the Highest Military Order of Socialist Ethiopia. A joint-communique was published.

3. VNA: Opening of a photo exhibition marking the "International Year of the Disabled" in Ho Chi Minh City. The exhibition displays the successes of the Vietnamese Government and people in the care of old people, orphans, the disabled and victims of social evils left by the old society. The exhibition also denounces the crimes of the US and Chinese aggressors which left millions disabled in Vietnam.

- The Vietnamese Ministry of Foreign Affairs sends a note to the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs demanding an answer from the Chinese side concerning the 3rd round of talks which should have been held in the 2nd half of 1980 in Hanoi.

5. Vo Nguyen Giap concludes his official visit to Guinea begun on 3 November. A joint-communique was published.

7. The Conference of the Presidium of AAPSO held in Nicosia on 6 and 7 December issues a statement denouncing the Chinese authorities for their hostile acts against Vietnam.

8. Hanoi: Celebration of the 260th anniversary of the birth of the well-known physician Hai Thuong Lan Ong (11 December 1720).

- Inauguration of a week of solidarity with the people of Salvador (from 8 to 15 December).

- Vo Nguyen Giap concludes his official visit to Benin. He was presented with the National Order the highest Order of Benin. A joint-communique was published.

9. At the invitation of the Ministry of Information and Culture, Carlos Vicente Ibarra, leading official of the Nicaraguan Cinema Institute, visited Vietnam from 1 to 9 December. The two sides exchanged experiences in film-making and agreed on a programme for developing cinema cooperation between the two countries, and also reached an agreement on screening Vietnamese films in Nicaragua and other Central American countries.

- At the invitation of AFP and IPS, a VNA delegation led by director general Dao Tung paid a visit to France and Italy from 28 November to 9 December.

11. A delegation of the Communist Party of Vietnam headed by Tran Quoc Hoan, Political Bureau member and secretary of the Party Central Committee, leaves Hanoi for the 2nd congress of the Communist Party of Cuba.

- Vo Nguyen Giap concludes his official visit to the Congo begun on 8 December. A joint-communique was published.

12. Opening of the 7th session of the Vietnamese National Assembly (from 12 to 26 December) to discuss the new constitution and the 1981 State-plan.

13. Hanoi: Signing of 2 agreements and a protocol on trade and goods exchange for 1981-1985 between Czechoslovakia and Vietnam.

- The Vietnamese Government presents Kayson Phomvihane, General Secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and Prime Minister, with the Gold Star Order (the highest Order of Vietnam) on the occasion of his 60th birthday.

- Vo Nguyen Giap concludes his official visit to Angola begun on 11 December. A joint-communique was published.

- The Vietnamese water conservancy service presents Kampuchea with 12 pumping boats. On the same day, Ben Tre province presents Kandal province (in Kampuchea) with various sports equipment valued at 8,000 dong.

15. Hanoi: Signing of a cooperation agreement on justice and law between the GDR and Vietnam.

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